

Trademark Tribe
Committee to design new logo nears decision as
proposed unveiling date approaches.
See LOGO page 10



Students rush to Greek life
This weekend sororities and fraternities begin their fall rush
and recruitment period.
See RUSH page 6

The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

VOL.97, NO.4

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2007

FLATHATNEWS.COM

College reacts to cuts

State cuts could mean a \$3.6 million loss for College

By MORGAN FIGA
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

The College placed a temporary freeze on hiring in response to Gov. Tim Kaine's request that the College cut 7.5 percent of its state funding allocation. The College is required to submit a proposal by Sept. 10 to the state detailing a plan of how to make the proposed cuts.

"We put a temporary freeze in place to ensure maximum flexibility between now and Sept. 10," the College's Vice President of the Finance Office, Sam Jones said. "No decision has been made as to if this freeze will continue post Sept. 10, and if continued, in what form."

To help counteract a predicted \$641 million state budget deficit, Kaine has requested that the College, the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech, the three state universities with increased independence from the state, cut 7.5 percent of their state funding. All other government agencies have been asked to cut 5 percent.

According to Jones, the small amount of time existing between Kaine's request and the Sept. 10 deadline has not allowed the College to decide what specific programs are going to be affected by the cut.

"Given the short turnaround, our plan is likely to be a series of general categories (free or limit hiring, limit equipment purchases, defer or slow action on selected projects and the like)," he said.

Jones estimated that the 7.5 percent loss will end up being about \$3.6 million. He added that since the school year has already begun, the College's ability to respond is limited and will probably translate to some impact on services.

Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen '09, who was asked to sit in on a meeting with the Faculty Priorities Committee, said that currently administrators are trying to formulate specific plans to deal with the cuts.

Documents handed out at the meeting indicating parameters for the cuts suggest "'spread[ing] the pain' but do not make across the board cuts" and taking action that focuses on the current year, not long-term reductions. They also stress that they want to pass as little of the budget problem on to students as possible.

Instead of cuts across the board, faculty at the meeting suggested cutting funds to auxiliary services that do not receive any state funding, such as dining services, or cutting back on various services at the College, including IT and decreasing hours at Swem Library. Other programs suggested to

See CUTS page 4

Demolition begins at Sentara site

By MARIA MOY
The Flat Hat

This Tuesday, demolition teams began work on the former Sentara Community Hospital, which is being torn down to make space for a new School of Education building.

The College has been working on plans to buy the Monticello Avenue property since 2005 and anticipates that construction on the new School of Education facility will be completed in 2010.

Currently, the School of Education operates out of Jones Hall, a building with only a quarter of the amount of space

deemed necessary to accommodate all of the school's programs and faculty.

According to several press releases, the cost to renovate the old hospital is similar to the cost of constructing an entirely new building. In fact, studies commissioned by the College to investigate the issue of whether to renovate or to rebuild say that it would take six months longer to renovate the hospital than it would to rebuild. Demolition of the hospital should be finished in November and construction of the new building is planned to begin in 2008.

"The future \$48-million facility will allow the school to expand its outreach programs in the region and enable all of the

school's classes, programs and faculty to work together under one roof," Brian Whitson, the College's director of news services, said.

Many programs stand to benefit from the larger facility, but the school's Center for Gifted Education in particular has had to make do with insufficient space to operate their programs. The center offers two summer programs that cater to teachers as well as a summer enrichment program that is attended by hundreds of children. According to a 2006 press release, these summer

programs will benefit from additional classroom space.

The new School of Education building will be designed by Sasaki Associates, Inc., a firm that has already designed several other buildings for the College. The new building will be 109,000 square feet.

Whitson says that the College does not expect demolition of the former hospital to interfere with student parking on Monticello Avenue.



CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT

The former Sentara Community Hospital on Monticello Avenue is being torn down to make way for the 2008 construction of the new location for the School of Education.

Platform plagiarized

JMU's student gov. pres. plagiarizes Pilchen

By AUSTIN WRIGHT
Flat Hat News Editor

Junior Zach Pilchen's student assembly presidential campaign platform has apparently worked twice: here at the College and also at James Madison University.

"The majority of my platform ideas

were taken from the Student Assembly campaign of Zach Pilchen and Valerie Hopkins at the College of William and Mary," Brandon Eickel, JMU's student government president, wrote in a letter to students there. "I would like to take this opportunity to publicly apologize to

See PILCHEN page 4

Admin. ignores rules

Philosophy dept. stifled by Arts & Sci. Dean

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat Assoc. Reviews Editor

Documents obtained by The Flat Hat reveal that an external review team of professors across the nation highly criticized the College's philosophy department for numerous debilitating problems, includ-

ing hostile environments for junior and women faculty members, large course loads, a lack of direction and the inability to retain new hires.

Of the department's environment, the team concluded, "The atmosphere is poisoned." The documents also reveal that members of the

See PHILOSOPHY page 4

College librarians paid less than peers

By ANGELA COTA
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

The College's Earl Gregg Swem librarians' salaries are well below the levels of their peers at rival institutions, despite their being among the most experienced librarians in the country.

College librarians have the 17th lowest salaries of 19 peer institutions. Yet the College has the second highest figure for average years of experience — 25.5 years, trailing the University of New Hampshire, which has 27 average years. As of July 1, 2006, the College's average librarian's salary was \$56,012, while New Hampshire's average was \$69,476.

"In 2002, the Librarians' Assembly investigated the issue with comparative studies," Head of the Salary Subcommittee of the Librarians Assembly Pat Van Zandt said. "We found that we had more years of experience, but our salaries are incredibly low."

Library faculty salaries remain behind despite receiving 7.7 percent increases from 2005 to 2006, putting them in the 12.6 percentile of salaries when compared to those of peer institutions. They still beat out Wake Forest University and Boston University; however, Wake Forest, with the lowest average salary, also has the second low-

est figure for years of experience.

The Librarians Assembly formed a small group within the Librarians Assembly, the Salary Subcommittee, to study salaries and years of experience. They found that for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003, salary percent increases were zero, zero and 2.5 percent, respectively.

"You just can't be in a job where you get zero, zero and 2.5 for 3 years," Dean of University Libraries Connie Kearns McCarthy said.

The peer institutions are from a list set by the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV). SCHEV has issued a list of new peer institutions for 2007. These calculations are based on the previous peer list. Other peer institutions include Emory University, Tulane University and Duke University. While Swem Library is not supporting a large research university with doctoral programs in all fields, it is a research library supporting a research institution, as defined by the Carnegie classification.

"I would not expect our salaries to be at the level of what a Duke or Harvard would be," McCarthy said.

While the Librarian's Assembly is not working with the Faculty Assembly, which uses the same

See LIBRARIANS page 4



NICHOLE LIDSTROM — THE FLAT HAT

Swem librarians receive lower salaries than librarians at peer institutions despite having more average years of experience.

NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

25 Campus Center, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. 23185
Editorial Dept. (757) 221-3281 • Advertising Dept. (757) 221-3283 • Fax (757) 221-3242

The Flat Hat — editor@flathatnews.com
News — news@flathatnews.com • Variety — variety@flathatnews.com • Sports — sports@flathatnews.com
Reviews — reviews@flathatnews.com • Opinions — opinions@flathatnews.com
Advertising — ads@flathatnews.com

Andy Zahn, Editor-in-Chief
Ashley Baird, Managing Editor • Chase Johnson, Executive Editor
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The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Friday



High 89°
Low 67°

Saturday



High 88°
Low 72°

Sunday



High 86°
Low 72°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“If Richmond passed the gas tax [we wouldn’t face cuts], but now students may have to pay \$500 to keep the library open.”
—Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen, ’09 on the budget cut
See COLLEGE page 1

“We kind of let some things snowball a little bit defensively [against Delaware].”
— Head Coach Jimmyle Laycock on the first football game of the season
See FOOTBALL page 10

News in Brief

Two professors awarded prestigious fellowships

The American Council of Learned Societies, a private, non-profit organization, awarded two of its 232 fellowships recently to Professors Alan Goldman and Melvin Patrick Ely. The fellowships, which are given out once a year, award \$60,000 for full professors, \$40,000 for associate professors and \$30,000 for assistant professors.

Goldman and Ely will use the grant money to work on their next books. Goldman plans to write a book about practical reason while Ely plans to write a book about enslaved blacks in old Virginia.

The American Council of Learned Societies consists of 69 national scholarly organizations and awarded roughly \$8 million in grant money for the 2007-2008 academic year.

William and Mary in Washington Program opens doors

The William and Mary in Washington Program has started accepting applications and begun interest meetings for interested students for the 2008 spring semester. This year’s theme, “U.S. National Security,” will be taught by Professor Amy Oakes from the government department.

The program, which consists of taking two classes at the Washington, D.C. office of the College and working 30 to 35 hours per week, earns students a total of 12 credits. In addition, the program helps guide and support students to apply for internships in the D.C. area.

The information session will take place at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 11 in the University Center. Visit www.wm.edu/wmindc for details.

— by Isshin Teshima

By the Numbers

16 feet

The deepest part of Lake Matoaka. The average depth of the lake is over six feet.

1,032

The number of calories that are in a bacon cheeseburger with onion rings from the Marketplace.

6 feet

The average height of young Dutch males, which is the tallest country in the world. American men are the ninth tallest in the world.

22.5

The number of black-and-white pages that the fastest commercial printer can print each second. That equals 1,350 pages per minute.

65

The factor by which flying is safer than driving over an equal distance, according to researchers Michael Sivak and Michael Flannagan in The American Scientist.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO — WIKIPEDIA COMMONS
Nassau Hall, Princeton University’s oldest building and a place that William Robinson studied.

BEYOND THE BURG
Princeton University involved in costly lawsuit
1961 alumnus sues over “wrongful” use of donation money

By MICHELLE JU
The Flat Hat

A recent lawsuit between Princeton University and Williams Robertson ’61 sparked mounting tension over the university’s use of specifically allotted donations. Robertson, whose parents donated \$35 million in A&P Supermarket stocks to the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, claims that the university misspent the donations and went against his family’s wishes.

Robertson, whose family had originally intended for the money to be used for educating and preparing students for U.S. government jobs, believes that the university did not live up to his expectations and wants to reallocate the money. Robertson claims that he is willing to press further charges against the university at

his own cost.

Princeton, whose legal battle has cost nearly \$22 million, expresses concern over the implications of giving donors the ability to rewrite a gift’s terms. Princeton maintains that they reserve the final say over where a contribution is allotted and that the Woodrow Wilson School for International Affairs was established for training students not only for government jobs, but also for fields such as public policy and international relations.

If Princeton were to lose this lawsuit, the university would be in danger of losing access to nearly \$850 million from the contributing foundation. The dent is noticeable despite the school’s status of having the highest per-student endowment, prized at \$14.8 billion.

Robert Lindgren, president of Randolph-Macon College, added

in an Associated Press interview that the family’s lawsuit “clearly serves as an important wake-up call” to colleges around the country. Most universities are growing aware of donors’ increasing interest in hands-on allocation of monetary gifts and are willing to accommodate.

“A hundred years ago, there were handshakes,” Kent Alexander, the general counsel at Emory University, said to the New York Times. “Now, there are contracts, and we’re litigious. I would worry more about something in the past coming back to bite us.”

The pressure is here to stay. The Center for Excellence in Higher Education will assist donors in upholding their power over universities’ spending of gifts. The group will work to devise financial methods to secure loopholes and to fasten deals between donors and institutions.

STREET BEAT
Is the UC food better this year?



I don’t think so. I compare it to the Caf and it [the UC] has less selection and I don’t like the hours.

Rachel Nagy ’08



It’s about on par with the summer, which is awful.

Wes Northam ’10



I think it’s a good mix of food.

Charles Kwening ’10



It seems like it’s the same ... I wish the UC had the selection and quality of the Caf.

Cassandra Bever ’08

— photos and interviews by Erin Lutes

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT
Aug. 28 - Sept. 3

Tuesday, August 28 — During an event at the University Center, three people reported that their wallets were stolen. They contained credit cards, keys and licenses. **1**

— The School of Business received a bomb threat via e-mail that was also sent to other universities. Blow Memorial Hall and Tyler Hall were searched, but nothing was found. **2**

— The Daily Grind reported that several tables and chairs were missing from the patio. Police estimated the items to be worth \$330. **3**

Thursday, August 30 — A student reported that a ring was stolen from Giles Hall. The ring is valued at \$200. **4**

— A \$300 bicycle was reportedly stolen near Brown Hall. **5**

— The taps in a University Center bathroom were left on. Police estimate the water damage to be about \$4,000. **1**

Friday, August 31 — Police arrested suspects stealing a vehicle from the construction area

on Ukrop Way. **6**

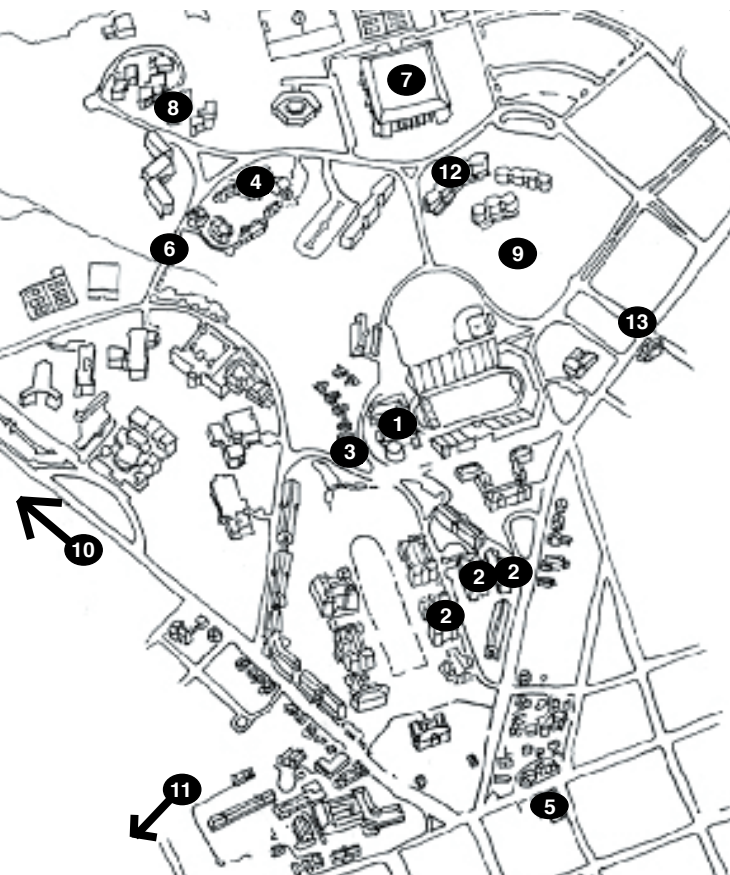
— An unidentified caller stated that her ex-husband was around William and Mary Hall and a writ of no trespass was filled. Last seen driving a light gray Odyssey van. Police are still looking for the vehicle in question. **7**

Saturday, September 1 — A head resident reported 3 females being loud in front of Fauquier Hall. The suspects were gone by the time police arrived. **8**

— A man was arrested for drinking alcohol in public around William and Mary Hall. Medics were required to handle intoxication and a nose bleed. **7**

— A subject stated that someone vandalized his car near the Fraternity Lot by pouring beer into it. **9**

Sunday, September 2 — A William and Mary student was arrested on Canterbury Lane for driving under the influence, evading a police officer and possession of marijuana. **10**



— A cell phone was reported stolen at the Law School. Police estimate its value at \$650. **11**

— A \$150 cell phone was reported stolen from a room during a party at Unit E in the Fraternity Complex. **12**

Monday, September 3 — A student was arrested on the intersection of Richmond Road and Harrison Avenue for driving under the influence. **13**

—compiled by Isshin Teshima

This week in
Flat Hat history
1931

The College added to the department of aviation by allowing 33 students to enroll in flight class with the possibility adding more spots. The College owned two open cockpit planes. Work in the department consisted of ground school training, which was worth four hours of credit and actual flight instruction, for which no credit was awarded. The courses were taught by an Air Force colonel.

1964

The assistant dean of the College announced that maid services in women’s dormitories were to be discontinued in individual rooms. The service was still available in community areas. This was also the first year during which room keys were issued.

1971

Students accused of honor code violations were given the opportunity to appear before a joint council of men and women to present their cases. In past years, councils of their own genders tried them. This change came after a series of referenda designed to produce more consistent results of the trials.

1981

A new chapter of the Delta Gamma sorority was chartered at the College. It was the 110th chapter of Delta Gamma. The sorority was founded at the Lewis School for Girls in Mississippi and headquartered in Ohio.

— compiled by Alexandra Cochrane

Some ‘heart’ Nichol, others hate

Pro-Nichol and anti-Nichol camps are divided over his role in rankings, cultural changes on campus

By ALINA TODOR
Flat Hat Staff Writer

As the fall semester begins, the issue of Gene Nichol’s renewal as the College’s president is being discussed on and off campus. Some students are donning “I heart Nichol” buttons to show their support for the president while others frequent anti-Nichol websites that are becoming increasingly popular to both students and alumni.

Jim Jones, ’82 and ’86, is the spokesman for one anti-Nichol website, shouldnicholberenewed.org. The website founders describe themselves as “a diverse group of alumni and students who share a common commitment to the heritage of The College of William and Mary as well as to the advocacy of excellence in higher education.”

Jones reinforces the goal of spreading facts, not emotional opinions, in order to help people make an informed decision on whether or not Nichol’s contract should be renewed. Jones considers Nichol’s presidency “to be a complete disaster for the College.”

“Nichol is a divider, not a unifier,” Jones said. “Historically, he is a polarizer.”

Lance Kyle, ’89 and ’94, is not a member of any of the anti-Nichol websites, but “agrees with their sentiments.” According to Kyle, Nichol has dismantled traditions, lost credibility and has cost the school a great amount of alumni support. Kyle said that he will be joining the public stand against the president if the Board of Visitors renews Nichol’s presidency.

Anti-Nichol protesters blame the president for the College’s

recent fall in U.S. News and World Report rankings, as well as for cultural changes on campus. The most notable and widely known issue remains the removal of the cross from the Wren chapel.

Bailey Thomson, a Nichol supporter on campus, thinks that the anti-Nichol group is “a small but vocal minority.” Thomson holds that “William and Mary is thriving, rather than failing, both financially and academically.”

Pro-Nichol websites, such as wmfightsback.blogspot.com, and iheartnichol.com are seeking to spread a pro-Nichol message in order to unite the student body in support of the president.

Thomson cites statistics such as the record number of applicants to the College this year and the surpassed \$500 million fundraising goal as evidence of the success of Nichol’s presidency.

Thomson suggests that students get informed and make public statements in the press, with

letters to the editor, in order to help defend Nichol and ensure that the student perspective is taken into consideration when the BOV makes its decision on Nichol’s fate later this year.

Both Jones and Thompson emphasized that the Nichol issue is not related to traditional party lines; they said that the battle is not being fought over conservative or liberal views and should not split students based on political loyalties.

“The issue is often misconstrued as political,” Thomson said.

Both pro and anti-Nichol groups are focusing on informing students, alumni and all those interested in the College’s welfare about the issues facing the president and the College. Whether unified or divided on the issue, students should become informed about the consequences that the BOV’s decision will have on their continuing careers at the College.



COURTESY PHOTO — ALEX HAGLUND
President Gene Nichol has been a divisive figure since the Wren cross.

SA debates student response to cuts in state portion of budget

Pilchen informs SA of proposed responses to budget decrease, asks for input from senators

By RUSS ZERBO
The Flat Hat

At the year’s first Student Assembly meeting Tuesday night, SA President Zach Pilchen ’09 discussed, among other things, charging students a one-time fee of \$400 to make up for the 7.5 percent budget cut in the state portion of the College’s budget.

He also said the College could close Swem at 5 p.m. or eliminate the Washington, D.C. study abroad program to compensate for the cuts.

Senators were most concerned about the possibility of a student surcharge, which was implemented in 2002.

“Anyone that has been approved for a scholarship will get a scholarship,” Pilchen said. “The surcharge is not tuition.”

“If Virginia raised a one to two cent gas tax, we could have avoided the whole thing,” he added.

Senators debated the idea.

“Students are able to apply for secondary loans [to pay for the surcharge] between semesters,” Senator Amanda Rowe ’08 said. “It would be awful, but

it can be done.”

Pilchen will represent students Sept. 5 at the Faculty University Priorities Committee where the 7.5 percent cut will be discussed.

Secretary of Finance Andrew Blasi ’10 also presented a finance investment prospectus report, prepared by Undersecretary of Finance for Investment Matthew Sass ’09. The report addressed what should be done with the College’s excess funds. The senate agreed to discuss the report its the next meeting.

The appointments of secretaries, members of the Review Board and members of the elections committee went fairly quickly because eight students were appointed with a unanimous decision and two students were appointed with a vote of more than two-thirds of the senate. Will Angley ’08, nominated for chairman of the review board, was voted down.

Ironically, as the longest standing member of the review board, Angley will serve as interim chairman until there is a new nomination.

After the long debate on the budget, Sen. Caroline Mullis ’09 said, jokingly, “Can we just fire a bunch of the administrators?”

SA discusses replacing SIN for election use

By SAM SUTTON
The Flat Hat

In the wake of last year’s election difficulties, the Student Information Network will probably not handle this year’s Student Assembly election, and will be replaced as the College’s primary polling network at some point in the next few months.

SIN was the focus of controversy in last semester’s confusing SA election, and SA President Zach Pilchen ’09 has confirmed that he and the SA are in the process of looking for an alternative program to conduct the March election.

SIN, which has been run by students in the past, is a website that offers a variety of services, such as ride board and job board, to the student body.

Confusion involving daylight savings time inadvertently erased the election results in

March.

Later, it was revealed that an individual from SIN had been able to access the results during the day, leading to concern over the website’s security.

The results were eventually recovered by an alumnus who had previously worked for SIN.

According to Pilchen, who became president in that election, polling with SIN in the upcoming school year concerns the SA.

“No one is really equipped to run SIN this year,” Pilchen said.

However, the upcoming freshmen elections will still be conducted on the network due to a “lack of time.”

Concerns regarding the voting system have also resonated within the Elections Commission.

The new elections chairman, Adam Boltik ’08, also confirmed

that a new system will be tested at some point in the near future, but he was unable to give any information about it.

However, according to Pilchen, the election commission, will not play a significant role in deciding which program will supplant SIN.

“My worry is that with an organization made up largely with government majors, we’ll end up trying to change how the elections are run,” Pilchen said. “I’m hoping this isn’t something

FBI investigates bomb threat

By CARL SIEGMUND
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

Staff members received a bomb threat via e-mail Aug. 28. According to the police call log supplied to The Flat Hat, the IT manager for the Mason School of Business reported that both Blow Hall and Tyler Hall were checked as a precautionary measure, but nothing was found.

“Our police department has been working with the FBI, and campus officials were monitoring this

developing trend across the country before William and Mary ever received a message,” Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler said in an e-mail to the student body yesterday afternoon. He also said that there was no need for alarm, and that all of the messages were anonymous and generic in nature.

Sadler said that in the future, students would be informed of credible threats through the College’s new emergency notification system. He asked students who received suspicious e-mails and messages to contact campus police at 221-4596.

RV tour to educate men and women

One In Four alums take education program on the road

By PIERRE DUMO
The Flat Hat

The College’s One In Four chapter began an RV tour this week to promote its new “Women’s Program.”

One in Four, which has more than 30 chapters nationwide, is a program designed to foster male awareness of sexual assault against women.

The group gives presentations to freshmen men each year, but a change is occurring within the program.

As of this week, the four One In Four RV tour members will find themselves face-to-face not with freshmen men, but with a new audience of women.

Four One In Four members, two College alumni and two from other schools travel to roughly 50 different universities to give their presentation.

“One of the things we kept getting feedback about from schools was, ‘Why don’t you have a program for women?’” John Foubert, assistant professor of higher education at the College and founder of the One In Four program said. “We thought about it for a while ... and we decided to put together a program for one year on an experimental basis as an RV tour.”

Already the challenges of the tour are surfacing.

“Every day is sort of an adventure for us,” Jor-el Caraballo, a graduate of UNC — Wilmington and one of the tour’s four members, said. “It takes some getting used to living in an RV, but we’re getting used to it.”

College alumnus and tour member J.T. Newberry ’07 echoed this sentiment.

“We have four people living in a 37 foot RV ... It’s just a matter of keeping a positive attitude,” he said.

Yet the cost of the tour seldom outweighs its rewards.

“You will continue to have people come up to you who are incredibly thankful,” Newberry said.

“They are just glad that there’s somebody out there who cares.”

Newberry decided to join One In Four after viewing a presentation of the program his freshman year, where he saw the opportunity to con-



COURTESY PHOTO — ONE IN FOUR
Former members of the College’s chapter of One In Four are traveling around the country educating men and women about preventing assault.

vey an important message to a group of people.

“It was amazing,” Newberry said. “I went there and I was completely shocked ... It just changed my life.”

One In Four began in 1993, when Foubert wrote a script for the program while working at the University of Richmond.

In 1997, the University of Maryland became host to the first official One In Four program.

The College chapter of One In Four was founded at the College in 2002.

The name of the program


refers to the statistic whereby one in four college women have survived rape or attempted rape.

As for the success of the “Women’s Program,” Foubert is realistic but hopeful.

“When we were writing the script we sent it out to many women and got some good feedback,” Foubert said. “At this point we’re just going to wait and see.”

Meanwhile, the open road is met with a sense of optimism.

“My expectation is that the sky is the limit,” Newberry said.



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The College of William & Mary Men's Basketball
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jcsmith@wm.edu



Pilchen’s campaign copied

PILCHEN *from page 1*

Zach and Valerie as well as the JMU community for not making this clear last spring during my campaign.”

Eight of the 18 initiatives listed on Eickel’s campaign website — which was taken off the internet at the request of Pilchen — are nearly identical to those listed on the Pilchen campaign website.

For example, Pilchen’s site states: “Zach started a composting program with dining services to turn leftover food into nutrient-rich compost for William and Mary flower beds.” Eickel’s site, which went online during the last days of Pilchen’s campaign, states: “I would like to start a composting program with dining services in order to turn leftover food into nutrient-rich compost for JMU’s flowerbeds and trees.”

Eickel also uses several unusual phrases that are nearly identical to phrases used on Pilchen’s site, such as, “Some RAs perceive their role to be that of pseudo-police officers.”

In an e-mail to The Flat Hat, Eickel said that he wanted to incorporate great ideas from other schools into his campaign. “I felt as if my ability to make these things happen on JMU’s campus was more significant than where the ideas originated,” he wrote. “I

realize this situation should have been handled differently, recognize my mistake, and have fully taken responsibility.”

Pilchen said yesterday that he heard last spring that Eickel’s campaign website was well-constructed and that he wanted to check it out for himself. He said that as he read through the site, he realized many of the ideas and phrases were taken directly from his own campaign website.

“I talked to him and asked him to pull down the website and issue a clarification to JMU,” Pilchen said, adding that he did not want to get further involved in the situation. “JMU will have to work it out for themselves.”

Mallory Micetich, a senator in JMU’s student government, said that the student government there stands behind Eickel. “It takes a two-thirds vote to impeach, and I know there aren’t two-thirds that want to impeach him,” she said. “He’s accepting full responsibility and, personally, I believe he’s doing it with extreme integrity.”

“Brandon’s a great guy, and we want William and Mary to know that he never meant to do it in anything other than a flattering manner,” she added.

Ilk Ghavami, who ran a write-in campaign against Eickel and lost by a margin of approximately 40 points, said he believes Eickel may

have had motivations for plagiarizing other than just bringing new ideas to JMU. “It seems as though his intent was to get elected,” Ghavami said. “Maybe he thought that because the William and Mary election was over, this would go under the table.”

He said that he hopes JMU students take the situation seriously. “It’s wrong. He cheated, he plagiarized, and now he needs to face the consequences,” Ghavami said. “I feel that this shouldn’t be forgotten because this tarnishes the image that JMU has.”

Because student politics are not part of academic coursework, Ghavami said Eickel most likely would not be tried for plagiarism by the school’s honor council.

The College’s honor council chair, Judd Kennedy ’08, said yesterday that if a similar situation occurred at the College, the honor council would have jurisdiction.

“Our process is a little bit different from JMU’s,” he said, noting that the honor code holds students accountable for both their academic work and their personal lives. “When anyone directly plagiarizes and asserts that someone else’s work is their own, it’s taken very seriously by the council.”

Eickel’s brother, Ryan Eickel ’10, is an SA Senator at the College.

Cuts may affect students

CUTS *from page 1*

incur cuts were various athletic programs and the semester in Washington, D.C. program.

The other main suggestion was a surcharge between \$300 and \$500 to be added to student bills next semester.

The hiring freeze was proposed as an immediate, short-term response until a more permanent plan is formed.

“It’s worth pointing out that the whole budget gap [wouldn’t exist] if Richmond passed the gas tax, but now students may have to pay \$500 to keep the library open,” Pilchen said.

According to Kathleen Kincheloe, assistant director of communications for the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia, all the state universities have a contingency plan that they have submitted to the state responding to various funding scenarios. She said that she had faith in the good contingency plans and stressed that the College would still receive more than 90 percent of its state funding.

Pilchen said that the College did discuss the “rainy day fund” at the meeting, but as of now, no decision has been made about how the College will make up for the \$3.6 million dollar loss. All discussion is still in the preliminary stages.

Pilchen said at the meeting that he stressed the importance of making sure the cuts do not affect financial aid programs or student activities. He said that the SA and FUPC were interested in ensuring that the student body has input on the decisions being made.

SA Vice President Valerie Hopkins ’09 said she hopes that students will be actively involved in communicating their issues to the administration for the best possible outcome.

“What’s sad is this shows where the governor’s priorities really are,” she said.

Until more news is handed down about the nature of the budget cuts, specific information about program cuts will be unavailable.

“We have been warned that

some level of reduction may become permanent,” Jones said. “Dealing with a longer term, more permanent reduction will require additional planning and campus discussion.”

Jones said that based on what they have heard from the secretary of education, the College is assuming that the cuts will carry into future years.

Kincheloe said that if permanent budget cuts do take place, there is a strong chance that there will be an increase in tuition and fees at state universities.

Last year, across all state universities, tuition and mandatory fees increased 6.5 percent for in-state students on average.

She stressed that all state agencies would have to shoulder some of the burden from the budget deficit.

“Nothing is set in stone yet,” she said. “[This] is probably the last thing the Gov. wants to do.”

She added that legislators often view higher education as being in a better position to respond to cuts than other state organizations that do not have the ability to fundraise.

“One of the things that is sadly true [is that] when legislators have to make these decisions, higher education is in a position to make more money,” she said.

Jones and Kincheloe both stressed that no permanent decisions have been made as of yet.

“Our highest priority is to protect the classroom experience, particularly if the proposed reduction is permanent,” Jones said.

Feud over documents continues

PHILOSOPHY *from page 1*

administration may have consciously bypassed or ignored the established procedures for handling the external review, including disenfranchising the department.

The external review, which was part of a regular review process, was conducted by four outside professors. The philosophy department was one of three departments up for review this year, along with religious studies and classical studies. The team consisted of two religious studies professors, Jodi Magness of the University of North Carolina — Chapel Hill and Benjamin Wright of Lehigh University; one classical studies professor, Christopher Faraone of the University of Chicago; and one philosophy professor, Nicholas White of the University of California — Irvine. The other two departments received positive reviews, but when it came to philosophy, the board had a litany of criticisms.

The report begins by praising the academic quality of the department, noting the respected senior faculty and promising junior faculty and citing the department’s “great potential.”

However, the report then states that the department is divided among seniority lines in which “senior faculty seem to have formed an alliance or bloc that pushes their agenda.” According to the report, this has created a number of administrative problems related to hiring, evaluation, promotion and retention.

“The department’s attitude is particularly hostile to women, and some faculty observed that women seem to be mistreated,” the report states. It adds that of the 12 faculty members, only two are women, and one is leaving at the end of this year for personal reasons.

The report also accuses ex-department chair Noah Lemos of personally making decisions that used to be handled by committees, such as matters concerning curriculum.

The review team decided that extreme measures were needed to counter what they considered a dire situation.

“Under these circumstances, the members of the review team agree that there is no choice but to recommend that the department [be] placed in [receivership],” the report concludes. “The new chair should be an external appointment at the rank of full professor. The review team recommends that the philosophy department remain in receivership until it is functioning normally and the hostile atmosphere

(especially for junior faculty and women) has been eliminated.”

“The most serious problem facing the department lies in the fact that serious and open discussion of central matters of program and personnel seem not to be going on at all, and conditions favorable to it seem not to exist,” White wrote in an opinion separate from the official report.

White also commented on the seriousness of receivership.

“This kind of intervention should be undertaken only with the greatest hesitation, when all else has failed,” he said. “But it may well be called for in this instance, since it may well be that adequate departmental deliberations cannot be brought about in any other way.”

Carl Strikwerda, the dean of arts and sciences and the administrator in charge of the review process and departments, decided that the report was serious enough to warrant bypassing the established College protocol for this situation. In June, he removed Lemos as chair and brought in Terry Meyers, an English professor, to handle the administrative duties of the department. Lemos has remained in his teaching role.

College President Gene Nichol knew of the situation but was not involved.

“The provost, Geoff Feiss, informed me that Dean Strikwerda was changing the leadership in the philosophy department,” Nichol told The Flat Hat in an e-mail. “So I was informed of it, but not involved in the decision.”

Feiss confirmed that he had briefed Nichol and that Nichol responded, “Well, you’re the provost.” He added that Nichol was not involved in the decision.

In a letter to the Board of Visitors, philosophy professors Paul Davies and George Harris asked for “emergency relief from a process poisoned by its prejudice and pernicious in its continuing effects on the reputations of distinguished faculty members.” They also noted that they were appealing the decision to the BOV because they could not get “timely redress” within College channels.

As reported in last Friday’s Flat Hat, Davies and Harris were cited by the review team as a problem for the department because of their refusal to participate in the search for new hires. They feel that junior faculty should no longer vote on hiring matters, claiming that the change would protect the junior faculty and raise the standard of excellence.

What the professors are most

upset about is that the report was released before the department or anyone in it was informed of its existence or given a chance to respond. This is in direct violation of the established College rules, which state that the entire review packet, including a response from the department, must be released together.

“By callously releasing a report with unsubstantiated charges without prior opportunity for rebuttal by those accused, the administration, particularly the dean of Arts and Sciences and the Provost, have not only put in jeopardy the careers and reputations of several distinguished faculty but also the honorable reputation of this College,” Davies and Harris said in their letter to the BOV.

Letters of protest from Lemos and another philosophy professor, James Harris, were unanswered by the administration. They posited that receivership was unwarranted given the lack of opportunity for a response from the department and demanded that the proper process be followed.

However, a letter from Strikwerda to Meyers dated Aug. 20 reveals that the administration was not going to allow any departmental response whatsoever.

“I believe that the first priority for you as the chair and for the department as a whole is to address the issues of governance and mentoring,” Strikwerda said. “Consequently, with the approval of the provost, I am suspending the department’s requirement to respond to the external reviewers’ reports.”

The future of the department and its position are unclear. Some fear that receivership may further break apart the already fragile department and drive away any new hires. Others are worried about the negative impact on students. Still others fear that this is merely some sort of retaliation, possibly because of the alleged mistreatment of faculty. Anti-Nichol activists have pointed out that Meyers was one of the coauthors of a Faculty Assembly petition last fall calling for generic support of Nichol, and that Lemos was one of two faculty members to vote against it.

Feiss noted that the problems facing the department may take time to fix.

“The likelihood is Professor Meyers is likely to be there for a year or two to help with transition,” he said, adding that a long-term replacement would then be chosen.

Strickwerda could not be reached for comment at press time.

Swem Librarian salaries lower than peer institutions

LIBRARIANS *from page 1*

list when campaigning for higher faculty salaries, they have followed its example, along with the example of the Student Affairs Office, in seeking higher salaries.

The faculty has a goal of the 60 percentile, and the library faculty thinks that this is a reasonable goal.

The average college librarian salary is currently \$7,736 below the peer group’s 60th percentile at \$63,748.

The College is also compared to other Virginia state colleges. The College exceeds years of experience with its 25.5 average years, but falls behind on salary.

The University of Virginia’s average years of experience amount to 16.9 and Virginia Tech’s total 17.7. U.Va.’s average salary is \$64,777 and Virginia Tech’s is \$59,256, outpacing the College’s is \$56,012.

McCarthy and Van Zandt attribute the low numbers to a few factors, including budgeting in Virginia and cutbacks in

the 90s.

Salary compression is also at the forefront, because younger job seekers are used to the idea of holding a few jobs over a lifetime, while members of the older generations typically stick to one.

Thus, the more experienced librarians have steady, lower salaries, while younger librarians may have higher, more transitory salaries, because younger members are more inclined to shop around and look for different jobs within the job market.

“This also has to do with years of experience. We have librarians with 20 or 25 years of experience, and they have never been in the open market to compete,” Van Zandt said. “Those more recently hired have much more comparable [to peer institutions] salaries.”

They also consider the fact that it is an “aging profession.”

“There were a lot of people entering it in the 60s and 70s,” Van Zandt said. “And now we need to have the salaries to bring in young professionals.”

McCarthy and Van Zandt estimate that nearly one-third of the professional faculty will retire in the next five to 10 years.


“A problem is that once someone retires, there is no place to get more funds at a level that would be necessary to attract new applicants,” Van Zandt said.

These salaries are for members of the faculty who are considered professional staff, meaning their position requires a terminal degree.

This includes librarians, a development officer and archivist. There are 24 members of the professional faculty in Swem Library and about 44 additional members of the staff are categorized as classified.

Classified staff may join a union or a labor organization, and their salaries are set by the state. This might include someone who works at the circulation desk or a department secretary.

Classified staff typically gain attention for salary demands, while often the salaries of professional staff have gone unnoticed.



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TALK TO US IN CONFIDENCE WITH CONFIDENCE

STAFF EDITORIAL

Tough budget choices

Eighteen months removed from Governor Tim Kaine's 2006 Charter Day address, in which the newly elected governor called education "the single most important domestic public priority" for the state of Virginia, the College has been informed that it must cut the state portion of its budget by 7.5 percent. This \$3.64 million decrease is incredibly dissappointing news for the College, which is already stretched dangerously thin on faculty salaries and academic departmental expenditures.

Kaine, who once wondered "why state funding for [Virginia] colleges and universities ranked so low," may have answered his own question. The brunt of the burden has fallen on the shoulders of Virginia's top three public institutions of higher learning — the College, Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia.

Now the College must quickly decide how to cut its budget to meet Richmond's demands. Proposals have included sweeping cuts to the various colleges, including the Mason School of Business, College of Arts and Sciences and the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, as well as a tuition surcharge which would tack on an additional \$500 per student for the spring semester. Other possibilities include cutting salaries for the president, provost and other administrative officials, and cutting budgets to auxiliary services, such as parking, IT and meal plans.

It is imperative that faculty salaries and funding for the various colleges remain untouched. The College already suffers from a low faculty retention rate, and further cuts in this area would be detrimental to students and faculty, as well as to the College's reputation as a top-tier university.

Recent tuition increases make the possible surcharge extremely unappealing, but, in this case, a slight raise in tuition seems to be inevitable. We recognize that for some students, additional hundreds of dollars in tuition may make the prospect of attending the College difficult, but the changes would only be temporary and the College could

counter these changes by stepping up efforts on financial aid. Salary cuts for College President Gene Nichol and Provost Geoffrey Feiss are also pragmatic temporary solutions, and we hope that they are welcomed by each for the sake of students.

While this news seems grim — and the solutions do not appear to be much better — there are several valuable lessons that the College can learn from this situation. The vast majority of the College's funding is still the result of private donations, returns from the endowment fund and other non-state sources. Overall funding from the state as a percentage of the College's total budget has been slowly decreasing in recent years, and these ongoing trends should inspire Nichol and others to

intensify fundraising efforts. This will assure that the College can counter future budget cuts, and would also provide essential financial aid resources for students who could not afford a tem-

porary tuition increase.

Nichol's recent efforts to make the College more accessible to low-income students may be jeopardized by these budget cuts. The lack of state funding could also make the College less attractive to prospective students, thus it becomes even more necessary that the College seek other sources of funding. It would be wise for the College to rely less on Richmond, particularly in light of the recent budget cuts.

Kaine finds himself in a very tough position. By state law, Virginia cannot run a budget deficit, so it is understandable that Richmond must cut state funding across the board. But it is the reprehensible idea of cutting education — the public education that Kaine supposedly held so dear in 2006 — that is most disturbing. No solution will be easy, and no answer that involves making education less affordable should be permanent, but the College community must face whatever changes the administration enacts with courage and conviction.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author's name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Being anti-Hillary is so last season

Devan Barber

FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



Okay, enough! Everywhere I go I hear bizarre, unfounded anti-Hillary Clinton rhetoric, coming from conservatives and liberals alike, and it's past the point of mere annoyance. I just don't get it. Have we really all bought into the right-wing, crazy-lie machine? Do caricatures and rumors now completely substitute for fact and understanding in politics? I'd like to think not, but I'm becoming disillusioned.

I firmly believe that Hillary is the best candidate for the Democratic nomination in 2008. Out of the top-runners (Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards), she alone has stood up against Republican attack dogs, she alone has gained years of experience both in Congress and in the political realm working on issues important to Americans, and she alone has the ability to bridge the divisive gap among voters in this country.

Hillary holds a unique position in the race to the White House because she has been in the public spotlight for so many years. Her name is instantly recognized by most Americans — more so than anyone else in the race. Because of her many years of political work and the deep hatred of hard-core Republicans for the Bill Clinton administration, Hillary has been made into an easy target for the right wing. Her unique political history has earned Hillary high negative ratings. You may have already heard about this (since every single person I've talked to who doesn't want Hillary to win seems to bring it up), but it's almost always taken out of context.

Yes, Hillary has the highest negative ratings of all the Democrats, but she also has the highest positive ratings (in a July Diageo Hotline poll, Hillary's national favorability went up from 48 to 57 percent, an increase higher than any other candidate's). It's called "name recognition." More people have heard of her, so more people have opinions about her. It's like saying there are more Americans who dislike the Beatles than there are Americans who dislike the Gentlemen of the College. Well, duh.

What people also fail to mention is that her negative ratings have steadily dropped over the past few months, while her positive ratings have increased. I see this as a sign that people are finally getting over the lies Republicans have spread about Hillary and deciding that she's amazing once they hear her speak at their county fair. Hillary's campaign is based on overcoming the cold, uncaring persona the right wing has constructed for her and showing people the "real" Hillary, someone who is extremely personable and insanely knowledgeable about policy (unlike a certain other president).

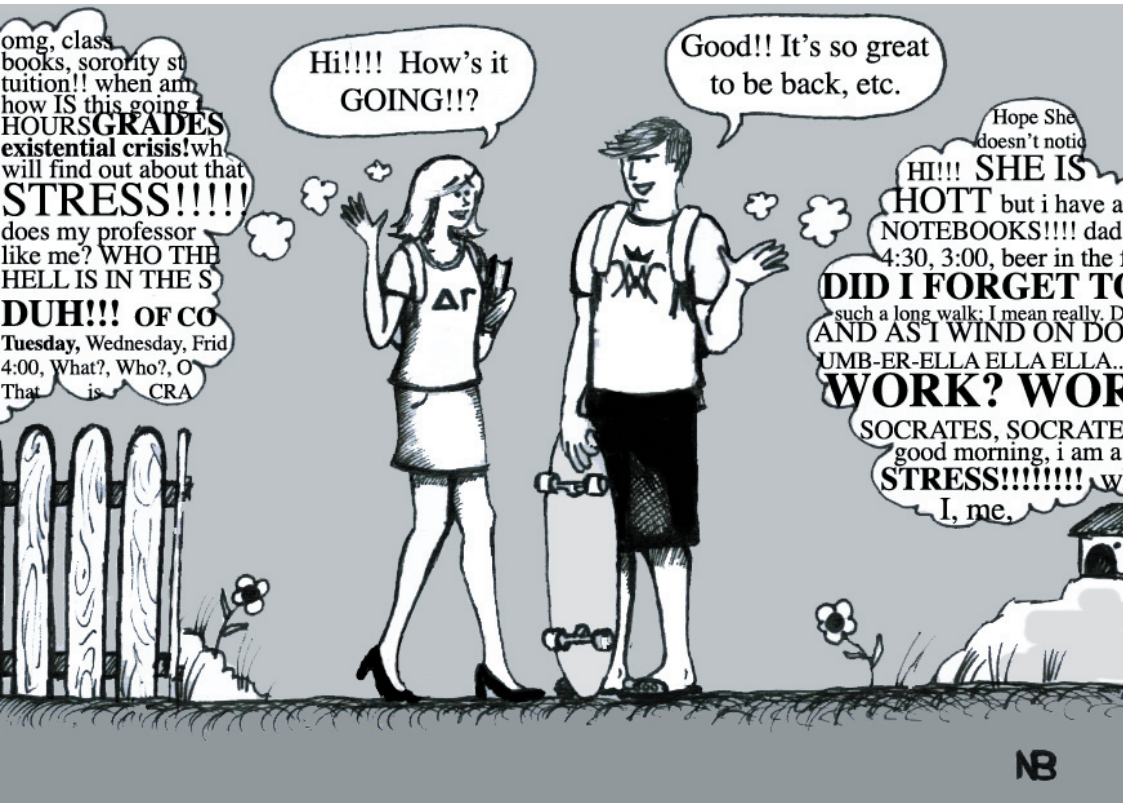
Moving beyond my own personal and political desires, I think Hillary will win the Democratic nomination. She has been ahead in every single national poll I've ever seen, and she's also ahead in many early primary states: An August Zogby International poll puts Hillary in the lead in Iowa with 30 percent over Edwards' 23 percent and Obama's 19 percent. An August American Research Group poll puts Hillary ahead in both South Carolina (Clinton 32 percent, Edwards 24 percent, Obama 21 percent) and New Hampshire (Clinton 37 percent, Obama 17 percent, Edwards 14 percent). It's also commonly known that Hillary leads in both Nevada and Florida. While I agree with

Hillary holds a unique position in the race to the White House because she has been in the public spotlight for so many years.

those who claim that polls aren't everything, it's also hard to ignore these numbers.

Hillary has created a unique position for herself as both a strong Democrat and a political moderate. This is not a contradiction in her actions or beliefs; it speaks to her ability to compromise and work across the aisle, while maintaining her progressive values. After nearly 7 years of reckless foreign policies, cronyism and mistrust, we need a president who will act both with strength and pragmatism. We need a president with the experience and knowledge necessary to put our country on a different track. Mostly, though, we need to nominate a Democrat who can kick some Republican ass in 2008. Seriously, Hillary is the (wo)man for the job.

Devan Barber is a senior at the College.



By NATE BURGESS, FLAT HAT GRAPHICS EDITOR

Juniors journey abroad

Sherif Abdelkarim

FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



Summer is officially dead. It died a few afternoons ago with the first serious class discussion, the first visit to Swem, the first completed written assignment. Already the air is colder and the leaves have turned color. Already my right eye twitches from sleep deprivation, and with an eclectic scholastic selection as eccentric as mine, I only wonder how fast a schedule so packed as this semester's will fly.

A true junior year should be measured by its workload. There is much heavy "mind" lifting to be done. You buckle down and "get serious" about what it is you want to do with your life. Discussions involving words like "thesis," "honors" and "bibliography" are held with advisors. Premature preparations are made for potential GREs, LSATs, MCATs and the like. For a year, you push yourself a little over the academic edge, not knowing whether to laugh, gag or shit yourself because of the workload being shoved down your throat.

The hope is that, by your final year, you've secured some sort of internship or post-graduation plan in which you do little more than bask in a state of drunken idleness — inviting yourself to a year of pass/fails, day-time and night-time television and pottery and self-defense classes. The last thing you want your last year to be is an improvisation — struggling to savor those last golden moments with friends, hastily fulfilling major requirements, pulling strings to perform miracles, straggling behind for a supersemester or two.

But wait! There's a loophole! As much as junior year is a time for work, it has within it much untapped potential for fun.

Feeding furry friends

Daniel Wolfe

GUEST COLUMNIST



It's a dewy September morning. As the sun peers over the Wren Chapel, you assume another beautiful day has begun. Looking over the Sunken Garden and the muddy divots made by frisbee fanatics, you catch a glimpse of a fidgeting McDonald's bag. With a Rainbow sandal gripped in one hand and your heart in another, you approach the paper phantom with caution.

With the sandal you poke the bag. What trembles out of the lip of the Happy Meal leaves you breathless. It's a bleary-eyed squirrel with dried saliva cobwebbed in its nappy brown hair. His chilling stare looks past you before a final whimper as he collapses into the same land in which he once buried his nuts. Type two diabetes has claimed another creature of the wild.

With the onset of another academic year, what spells 15 pounds for collegiate teens nationwide means death by glucose for God's less bipedal creatures.

I draw attention to the College specifically because it deals a double blow to its woodland friends. Not only do the furry felines and rambunctious rodents suffer from the half-eaten Wawa sandwiches, there is a preponderant supply of stale cornbread and ginger beer provided by our time-capsule tourist attraction, Colonial Williamsburg. Nine months of college junk food plus 12 months a la colonial equals 21 months out of 12 where Bambi's friends lapse into comas.

But I digress here. In my column about the Wren cross last year, I offered little solution, as I found it simply God's matter to resolve; however, as that

The fall may be here already, but maybe summer isn't dead after all. Perhaps summer went abroad. Yes, summer is in China, summer is at Oxford, summer is at the summit of Dubai's ski slope.

More and more, juniors are spending a semester abroad in a domino-effect frenzy. It's more or less perfect — you basically get the semester off, discovering life in another country, blending culture, coursework and learning with a new people, their foods and their drinks. I have yet to hear a student complain about his or her experiences overseas. I also have yet to hear of any student who had a heavy enough workload about which to complain.

Students are now flying off in droves — successive, conformity-fixed flocks. Some switch majors just to join their friends in Beijing, or compromise their futures for a semester in Rome. And I say, "Yes! Why the hell not?" I encourage this reckless abroad-bound abandon for all juniors who can afford a semester of such tremendous ease and

I encourage this reckless abroad-bound abandon for all juniors who can afford a semester of such tremendous ease and comfort.

comfort. Not only will you thoroughly enjoy the fresh change of scenery, you'll even appreciate the minimal amount of schoolwork you'll be given. It will prevent you from having that restless, not-quite boredom feeling you grew so accustomed to this summer.

And when you get back, you'll have that final year, that senior year, to accomplish absolutely nothing. You'll have made enough connections in Paris or Oxford to render work unnecessary. Looking back on this summer, and at the fall ahead of me, I encourage you to run abroad while you still can.

Sherif Abdelkarim is a junior at the College.

same Lord above let Adam name the animals, I am here to name the solution.

First and foremost, I think we can all agree that the current dumpsters are a dramatic strain on our senses. Newly constructed waste receptacles will be made out of pure Nalgene in a robotically vacuumed chamber. Squirrels will not be able to get in or out. Each bin will have a scanner akin to the College's dorm entrances, and will require proper student ID (as well as proper licensing and waste-disposal training).

I find the recycling at the College vastly inadequate as well. It's only a means of helping the libbys sleep well with their "eco-friendly" contrivance while the money-snorting capitalists still burn the trash in the same furnace. New subdivisions must be made for waste. There will be the standard: paper, plastic and aluminum. But within those categories will be A-, B- and C-types. A-types will stand for glucose-contaminated, B-types for lactose and gluten and all C-types will be for the germ and venereal-tainted.

Nine months of college junk-food plus 12 months a la colonial, equals 21 months out of 12 where Bambi's friends lapse into comas.

At this point you must certainly think, "But Mr. PETA — what if this isn't foolproof and I, myself, am a fool?" Obviously I've thought of this as well. Effective immediately, every student at the College will receive one bamboo shoot and an insulin blow dart. GER eight has been added to graduation requirements featuring classes in squirrel resuscitation and Aiming 101.

The best alternative, though, remains the same — whether food or trash, don't feed the animals. You never know when they'll drop dead.

Daniel Wolfe is a sophomore at the College.

VARIETY

Searching for sorority sisters

By MEGAN DOYLE
Flat Hat Assoc. Variety Editor

Add/drop ends today, signaling for many the conclusion of a period of constant class changes. On the very night that each student's class schedule is finalized, hundreds will commence on a new journey filled with decisions and commitments relatively more complicated than deciding whether to take chemistry or art history — sorority recruitment.

The recruitment process really began last Sunday, which was the deadline for online registration for those wishing to be involved in recruitment. Reminiscent of a college application (minus the essays), registration included listing high school and college activities and GPAs as well as sorority legacies.

Potential recruits next faced a mandatory informational meeting at which the Inter-Sorority Council presented a slide show promoting the many aspects of Greek life, including sisterhood, philanthropy and networking. Clad in bright green shirts, ISC leaders hid their chapter loyalties, as they are required to do

throughout recruitment in order to be neutral and aid in the process. At this meeting, recruits also met with their recruitment counselors, who act as guides for their groups of recruits, answering questions and addressing concerns.

Among the many rules structuring the formal sorority recruitment process, ISC aims to promote Greek life as a whole, and not to create bias in recruits toward a particular chapter. Similarly, counselors encourage recruits to leave behind notions about specific chapters and sorority life in general.

"We encourage women to go through recruitment with an open mind; meet the women here in W&M's Greek community and see what we are all about," Alexandra KIELTY '09, ISC Vice President of Recruitment, said. "Many people come into college with preconceived stereotypes about what being in a sorority is, and we find that once people actually come into the chapter houses and talk with our sorority women, a lot of those ideas go out the window."

Small pink handbooks, serving as a rulebook for the process, were

handed out to potential members. The book outlines rules, addresses concerns and even recommends wardrobe options for each event. Most importantly, the handbook outlines dates and times for each of the many complicated rounds.

Round one of formal sorority recruitment consists of two days of open houses, in which recruits can visit each of the 10 participating chapters. A major change to the event schedule, which switches rounds two and three, has been introduced this year. Round two this year is philanthropy day. Skit day will take place during round three, in which recruits can visit up to five chapters and watch skits on what their sisterhood means to them.

"We wanted women going through recruitment to be able to have more time to talk to women in the chapters before making a more drastic release," KIELTY said. Although the initial two rounds are free, recruits must pledge a \$25 commitment fee to remain in round three. The final round of recruitment allows recruits to visit up to three chapters.

Following this round, on preference night, recruits visit up



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT

Kappa Kappa Gamma sisters prepare food for Kappasta, the chapter's spring philanthropy event.

to three chapters and then rank them in order of which they most prefer to join.

On the eve of making the commitment of joining a sorority, there are a range of levels of preparedness among the women embarking on the process. In addition to a long-term commitment, the required yearly dues for each chapter are in the \$400 to \$500 range. At the potential new member information meeting, ISC also

addressed academic concerns. Approximately 30 percent of undergraduate women at the College belong to a sorority, and the GPAs for these women are comparable to the overall womens' GPAs on campus, which is enforced at a minimum GPA requirement of 2.0. While some may be certain of the social as well as financial obligation, for many, the decision to rush and eventually to pledge is a complicated one.

Of the approximately 330 women who signed up for recruitment, around 60 percent are freshmen. After only one full week of classes and freedom from the reign of a packed orientation schedule, the decision to participate in recruitment is a particularly stressful one for freshmen. For upperclassmen, whose routines have already been established, the decision

See SISTERS page 7



BEAU BLUMBERG — THE FLAT HAT

Theta Delta Chi brothers smoke hookah and socialize with potential pledges at a rush event on the back porch of Unit C.



BEAU BLUMBERG — THE FLAT HAT

ISC and CFA members accept applications from potential rushees.

Frat rush mixes fun, tradition

By ELIZABETH COLE
The Flat Hat

Greek life is buzzing on campus. On any given day, one can see a parade of Greek letters emblazoned on T-shirts or perched atop campus housing in the Units. Amidst all the Greek letter frenzy lies a motivation — fraternity recruitment for the fall semester is underway. All 16 fraternity chapters officially recognized on campus are seeking new members for their brotherhoods.

Approximately a quarter of all men on campus are Greek. That is to say, they are affiliated with a nationally recognized fraternity. Since the establishment of Phi Beta Kappa, the first Greek letter organization in America, the College has sustained the inclusion and growth of Greek life on campus. PBK has evolved into a prestigious co-ed honors fraternity reserved for qualified seniors at the College. Its inception on campus, however, pioneered the presence of Greek social life that is so popular today.

Fraternities are identified as selective brotherhoods that belong to an individual chapter that is encompassed by a larger, national organization. At the beginning of each semester, chapters participate in a recruitment process in which they host open events for prospective brothers. On a certain date, fraternities can begin to extend bids, or invitations, for men to pledge a particular fraternity. Men can choose to accept, defer or decline a bid.

Delta Phi is the only fraternity that deviates from the bid process by offering bids only in the spring. Delta Phi Recruitment Chair Josh Cromwell '09

emphasized that they do, however, engage in and encourage fall recruitment events and continue them throughout the year. Bids will be extended beginning Sept. 17 and must be accepted, declined or deferred within 10 days. Men may receive more than one bid in the process, but may only pledge one fraternity. A rite of passage is the signing of their official pledge cards in the Council for Fraternity Affairs office in the Campus Center, through which the recruitment process ends and pledging begins.

Fraternity recruitment, unlike sorority recruitment, is an individualized process. Fraternal Greek life on campus is governed by the CFA, a board represented by multiple chapters on campus. The CFA mandates that each chapter attend Meet the Greeks and host four open houses. These open houses are often called "smokers," where interested students can meet the brothers and eat free food.

Kappa Sigma Rush Chair Evan Brown '09 said that freshmen can expect to meet many other freshmen, and enjoy free food and abundant social opportunities during recruitment. He stressed, however, that familiarity with a chapter is not limited to general recruitment events. Kappa Sigma promotes meeting potential brothers beyond the standard open houses to better understand and familiarize themselves with prospects.

"We try to meet up with interested individuals outside of these events, whether it's at the Rec Center for basketball or just hanging out in the house," Brown said. "These more personal activities give both the brothers and the prospective a better idea of whether or not there is a good fit

for both sides.

Rob Tisdale '08, Theta Delta Chi recruitment chair, echoed the sentiment that recruitment is an ideal opportunity for any and all men interested in Greek life. Engaging in a casual activity such as bowling underscores the kind of events "that are behind the scenes that are a vital part of the sustenance of the brotherhood," he said. Recruitment is a time not only for unaffiliated men to familiarize themselves with chapters, but also for chapters to familiarize themselves with potential brothers. It is an equally educational process for both Greek and non-Greek men.

"What is so nice about fraternity rush is the combination we take to mix a casual and friendly atmosphere with the important and serious principles we hold dear and expect to find in our potential new boys," William McClain '08, brother of Beta Theta Pi, said.

Many of the 16 fraternity chapters are housed in the Units. Others opt to reside in alternative locations such as the Lodges or off campus. This year, Kappa Alpha regained residence in the Units after spending last year off campus. Kappa Sigma secured Unit housing after their colonization two years ago. Beta is also new to the Units, now occupying what was formerly residential housing. It is not required that all brothers live in designated fraternity housing; however, chapters must fill their housing to be eligible to continue occupancy. For this reason, many brothers do reside in their chapters' houses.

For further questions about the fraternity recruitment process, contact the CFA office or visit them online at www.wm.edu/so/greeks.

Foreign adventure: friendship, scenery and discount T-shirts

James Damon
CONFUSION CORNER COLUMNIST



A word of advice: No one in China wants to be your friend. After studying abroad in China this summer, I learned that people are only nice to Westerners for two reasons: They want to sell you something, or they want your organs.

I went to China with a group of students from the College. While I wanted to become acquainted with my fellow Americans, their friendship was not my prize. More than anything, I desired a Chinese friend — someone to affirm in me a sense of worldliness and tolerance. I wanted to brag about my foreign friend to everyone I knew. He could teach me the Chinese equivalents for useful English words, such as vampire or clown car. In exchange, I would tell

him about my life as a student. I imagined writing long letters, and then waiting eagerly in line at the post office.

"Hello again James, another letter to your friend in China?" a postal worker would ask, remembering my name after seeing me so often.

"What, this? Oh, yes. A flood wiped out all the crops in my friend's village. Without television or running water, my letters are the only things that bring him joy."

"How sad," the postal worker would say.

Our first day in China, my study group visited the Great Wall. Almost immediately, a small Chinese woman approached me. "Hello, friend. Are you climbing the Great Wall?" she asked me.

"Climbing the Great Wall I am," I explained in substandard Chinese. "You me walk together?" She smiled and nodded. I was swept away on a flood of elation. After only one day in China, I was being requisitioned for friendship by complete strangers.

I knew little of my friend. For most of the

journey she spoke in Chinese, and I nodded eagerly. When we stopped at an overlook, she asked to take my picture. I assumed that she would love to, and would be astounded by the wonders of electronic technology. If anything, I was doing her a favor.

"You like?" she asked as she handed back my digital camera so that I could check her work.

I was astonished. She took a fantastic shot. My body was perfectly centered in the frame. And she had somehow managed to adjust for brightness, which is normally a problem when taking pictures of my pale face on a bright day. Instead of coming out one giant bright blur, I appeared crisp and viewable. I imagined the possibilities of having such a photographic prodigy for a friend. I could take her with me on my next trip to Paris. "Do you think you could get another one of me standing in front of the Eiffel Tower? This time maybe make me look a little more brooding?"

After following the many curves of that endless wall, she and I finally arrived at the parking lot

where I would catch a bus to take me back to my hotel. As I was getting ready to ask my new friend for her mailing address, she pulled out an armful of T-shirts, postcards and books. "I know you are my friend, so let me give you a deal." To be honest, I was hurt. We had just spent three meaningful hours together on the Great Wall of China.

"You like the scenery?" She had asked me only minutes before. "Yes," I had responded in unintelligible Chinese. "They very pretty. Me think they very good to look at."

How could she take our budding relationship and just pretend it had been nothing? Out of spite I refused to buy anything from her. "But I thought you were my friend," she pleaded. I thought so, too. It was only later, when I retold this story to friends, that I realized she had never told me her name. Or perhaps I never thought to ask.

James Damon is a Confusion Corner columnist. Watch out if he's nice to you — he probably just wants your organs.

From geek to Greek: getting a great guy

Emily Powell
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
COLUMNIST



I know many women on campus who are trying to find a steady relationship. They’ve been through the random hook-ups, have had their share of guilt-free fun and just want to find a nice college guy. I’m here to tell you that’s impossible. Well, maybe not impossible, but you will have to be willing to deal with one of the six types of guys who attend the College. Each group has its set of pros and cons. If you can reconcile your standards with those issues and let your intended man know you’re available, you may have a shot.

Geek. I’m starting out with the most obvious guy-type. We are all geeks on some level at the College. I have met guys at both ends of the geek spectrum. If it seems like your intended beau is in the library for more hours than he sleeps, you might be able to help him escape. Ask him if he’d like to study with you outside in the Sunken Garden, and then when you’re at a stopping point you could play some frisbee. I’ve found that the stereotypical geek has never had a ton of attention from a girl, so sometimes showing a little interest is all you need to find a great guy.

Greek. Fraternity boys everywhere tend to get a bad reputation because people just associate them with movies like “Animal House” and think that all they want to do is take advantage of women by getting them drunk. You should be careful at any party, regardless of who is hosting it, but fraternity parties can be amazingly fun. Everyone probably attended at least one freshman year. Contrary to popular belief, a lot of fraternity guys aren’t just looking for quick sex. Many they are the type who offer to walk you home after a



long night. The downside to these men is that the fraternity is like their family at times. So if you go out with a frat boy, watch out for the break-up backlash. You may find random guys openly discussing your sex life — ouch.

God. Depending on the type of person you are, this may be a huge positive to you. I don’t want guys to think girls hate men who believe in God. I find it a huge turn-on when a guy is strong enough to stand up for his faith. But the problem that many women have with Christian guys is when their religious views are so strict that a relationship becomes impossible. There are both ends of the prude spectrum. Some would never have sex before marriage; others are unwilling to let a girl sit with them in their room. That’s a true story. If you’ve got it really bad for a guy who is rigidly Christian, I think the only option is to let him know that you would match his moral code. Maybe things will change once you start going out, maybe they won’t. It’s your responsibility not to pressure him, but be ready for some extreme sexual frustration.

Gamer. Trying to get a gamer to cut down is like taking the bottle away from an alcoholic. Unless you’re a girl who is really into video games, you’re going to feel tossed aside. There will be many nights of sitting and watching

him play video games with his friends, hoping that after this mission he’ll put down the controller and kick everyone out. I have only successfully pried a guy away from a video game once, and I had to resort to some extreme measures that you might not want to try with his friends watching. The best way to deal with this situation once you’re involved is to explain to him that you won’t sit around when he’s playing games. If he wants to see any parts of you, he needs to turn off the screen and drop the headset. It’s a coin toss as to which he’ll choose, but I never said it would be easy.

Girlfriend. I would not suggest getting into a situation in which you are coming between a girl and her guy. That’s like stepping between a momma bear and a cub, and you may find yourself in the middle of a bitch fight. But if you’ve gotten the sense from him that he’s unhappy with his controlling, emotional girlfriend, it might be okay to just let him know that a less psycho girl could make him happier. On the pro side, you know he can handle a relationship. Con: if he left her for you, who’s to say it can’t happen again?

Gay. Damn it.
Emily Powell is the Flat Hat sex columnist. She has invented various ways of pulling guys away from their games.



That Guy Jed Talvacchia

By SAMANTHA FIEN-HELFMAN
That Guy Columnist

Jed Talvacchia is arguably the number one bachelor on this campus: he’s charming, intelligent, accomplished, attractive and incredibly down to Earth. He surprised me with breakfast before our interview and throughout the questioning, joked with his roommate in a very endearing manner. I learn that his favorite place on campus is “the largest table at the Leafe, surrounded by [his] friends ... and Clay Clemens, of course.” Jed would need the largest table; with such a giving and personable character, it is not surprising how many people gravitate toward him or how easily he makes friends. Jed believes that individuals create their own fate and after our interview, it is clear that he has already created a very fulfilling life and promising future.

You’re involved in a lot of activities both on and off the campus. Which has brought you the most joy or satisfaction?

I feel honored and proud to be a part of the committee that recently passed the medical amnesty policy. I think it is a huge step forward in the school alcohol policy, both in the safety of the students and to urge an increased dialogue on the subject. And personally, I feel lucky because it struck a chord with me and showed me what I want to do with my life.

What was your role in this campaign?

I wrote Sam Sadler my freshmen year, iterating many of the problems I saw with the alcohol policy. He was polite enough to hear me out and asked if I’d take my suggestions to the Alcohol Task Force. With sincere help from [Administrators Dean Gilbert], Anne Arseneau, Mark Constantine, Sandi Cleveland, Sam Sadler and Josh Lovell, it passed this past spring.

Have you been satisfied with the responses of students regarding this new policy?

I think the student response on the whole has been good. I know it has been used several times this year already which I’m very happy about, in a certain sense ... I mean to say that it’s great the freshman, who are most at risk, feel comfortable using the policy. I’d like to see an even larger publicity mounted, however, possibly from this publication.

How has the College lived up to the expectations you had when first matriculating?

This school had far surpassed them by my sophomore year. I think that is why I became a tour guide. I love the College but there are a lot of myths out there and I think it’s really important to give a true representation of the school.

Are there more changes you would like to see made concerning the policy?

Yes, I would like to see that chapter rooms, dance floors, basements and even social lounges are considered private space and, therefore, if you are 21, you can legally have a drink. That is a much more daunting task because you run into people who hold very different interpretations of the Virginia state code and how it defines private spaces.

How would you respond to people who think tour guides are fake and overly peppy?

Everyone has their own experiences with this school. Other students only hear 30 seconds of our tours. It’s hard to be judgmental when that’s all they are hearing. The whole idea of the tour is to give our own individual impressions. That’s what visitors want: personal experiences.

If you could repeat one day at the College, which would it be and why?

Hmm, I would have to go with the day the Red Sox won the World Series. The broadcast stating they won was my ringtone for a long, long time. In fact, I tried to get it back again but they’ve taken it down.

Did you ever study abroad or go on a service trip? What were your experiences?

I did go abroad — I went to Spain after my freshman year and hiked there with three other students and a professor along a 500-mile medieval pilgrimage route through northern Spain. I started in Roncesvalles and ended in Santiago, hiking an average of about 20 miles a day. We studied the architecture and culture of Santiago and were there for about 35 days. The College was incredibly generous; they gave me credit as well as financial aid and the program is still running for those who are interested.

Then I went to Nicaragua alone after my second year and performed service and research. I used a summer grant and worked with a program down there called Sister Cities. We installed water filtration fountains in rural communities that have high rates of infant death and malnourishment, often with remote access to health care systems. I lived with a family and performed research on small-scale NGOs.

This past spring I went with API [Academic Programs International] to Sevilla from January to May for study abroad. There were about a dozen other incredible WM students and we traveled pretty much every weekend, hitting cities all over western Europe. Following that, I had an internship with NATO. I applied through the WM Career Center and the credit goes to Dr. Koloski and Barbara and Robert Glacel. In Brussels, I stayed with by far the most kind, hospitable family you could imagine. They truly made my experience. In fact, I hope that, at some point in [my] career, I can offer both a position and home to host an intern. I was continually awed by the absolute commitment, intelligence and kindness of the U.S. Mission’s staff. It solidified my desire to work in the federal government at some point during my life.

What has made you so interested in service and traveling?

I often quote my hometown senator, JFK, who once said in a senatorial speech, “To whom much is given, much is expected.” I have this philosophy that I grew up in a middle class life and go to one of the most prestigious schools in the nation. ... If I don’t give 110 percent then I insult all those who don’t have those opportunities. I waste their sacrifices. In terms of travel, I have the opportunity and I have the opportunity to make a change. So if I don’t take up that calling, I view it as a shame. Finally, firsthand knowledge leaves a much more lasting impression.

What is your biggest fear?

Losing any member of my family. We are incredibly close. I have two brothers: one older and one younger. My younger brother is ten years old and is the coolest little brother you could ever want. My older brother is my mentor. He’ll always be. My father is my hero. My mother grounds me.

Jed’s first lucky lady?

[Laughs] ... Leora Feldstein. We dated for two-and-a-half years and I broke up with her in the lunch room in sixth grade ... a day I will always regret. We still talk now twice weekly. I’m not kidding. There’s no romantic interest. We have always been completely platonic ... [laughs]. I don’t regret the fantastic relationship that has come out of the break-up but I do regret that we broke up in a lunch room.

Searching for sorority sisters

SISTERS *from page 6*

remains multi-faceted. Though many athletes manage the balance between sports and Greek life, the College’s women’s lacrosse team requires that freshmen refrain from participating. “Freshman year is a stressful time, and our coaches didn’t want us to be overwhelmed by joining a sorority,” said Katie Delaney ’10. “This year, I feel like I have a more set routine, so I am going to try [recruitment] out and see what I think.”

Many intend to try the process out just to see if it suites them, including Melsie McReynolds ’09. “Last year I decided to [participate] to make sure it was something that I didn’t want to do, so that I knew I wouldn’t regret not trying it,” she said. “The process was

kind of intimidating because I never really pictured myself in a sorority.”

Still, she found that recruitment was a fulfilling experience even though she decided not to pledge. “It was interesting seeing the different sides of the houses, especially on skit day — each house really has a different personality,” she said. “I could see myself in a couple of the houses. It was fun seeing that I could fit in somewhere, had I decided to commit.”

For those that do end up pledging a sorority, it is clear that many have a positive experience. “To me, being Greek has a lot to do with building and maintaining character,” ISC Vice President of Community Service Kelly Carter ’09 said. “I personally believe that volunteerism naturally builds

character, both of which seem to be uniquely important to William and Mary students in general, and is special to the Greek community. Whether it is giving time, money and/or energy, each member of the Greek community donates a portion of themselves to someone else, which attests to their character and holds promise for where that will take them and the community in the future.”

For freshmen and upperclassmen alike, the decision to rush is a multi-faceted one.

Whether for social aspects or philanthropic opportunities, joining a sorority comes with time, social and financial commitments. The ISC encourages women to try out the process and go into it with an open mind about Greek life.

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HOROSCOPES

Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



You may find that your roommate becomes upset with you this week — not because you sexile him, but because you urinate on everything in sight.

Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



Your three-hour human drawing class seemed pretty cool, until your boyfriend signed up as a nude model for the art department.

Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



If you think the recent state budget cut is detrimental to your education, fear not. You go to school in Virginia anyway.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



We know that break-ups can be frustrating, but rock-starring your ex-girlfriend’s room is taking it a little too far.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



Good news this week! The Student Health Center is starting a new suicide hotline just for all you die hard Redskins fans.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



Reading The Flat Hat’s sex column aloud to your girlfriend is a great relationship builder. The random girl at the party might get kind of scared.

Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20



Your history class has taught you that the Gestapo and SS have been disbanded, but Campus Police begs to differ.

Aries: March 21 - April 19



Speaking of the SS, now that every fraternity has been busted, your badminton club should consider going underground.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20



It’s great that you drafted Rex Grossman as your fantasy football quarterback. Too bad interceptions and negative quarterback ratings aren’t statistics.

Gemini: May 21- June 21



Contrary to popular belief, those sounds you hear aren’t coming from the “Mean Girls” convention — it’s just sorority rush.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22



Listen to your RAs and the Student Affairs office: One drink per hour is a great way to accomplish absolutely nothing.

Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22



Seriously, stop reading these stupid horoscopes and go to class. Your professor is concerned about your whereabouts.

REVIEWS

Five best TV shows you don't know about

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat Assoc. Reviews Editor

Sure, “Lost” and “Grey’s Anatomy” are popular shows, but what about the TV no one watches? These shows are ones you probably haven’t seen, or even heard of. Nevertheless, they are true gems that gleam off the beaten path, and they deserve a chance.

“History Detectives”

One of the most interesting shows on PBS, “History Detectives” involves real-life researchers, mostly appraisers and academics, who answer questions about various items of unknown historical importance. Usually, the cases involve family heirlooms that, according to legend, once belonged to historical figures. The researcher meets with the person, gathers any information they have about the item, and then performs research and interviews historians familiar with the subject for more clues. Some of the items that research determined were authentic include a \$250,000 cast-iron eagle that once adorned Grand Central Station and an early-1800s handwritten list of public education donations, including \$200 from then-President Thomas Jefferson (which bankrupted him). Some items that research couldn’t prove (although didn’t disprove either)



COURTESY PHOTO — TBS
“My Boys” features an ensemble of five guys and leading lady P.J. Franklin, portrayed by Jordana Spiro.

to be authentic include a flag thought to have draped President William McKinley’s casket and a possible piece of a Civil War air balloon used for reconnaissance against the South. The show is an interesting look at our nation’s heritage. “History Detectives” airs locally on WCVE Mondays at 9 p.m.

“My Boys”

In an age when almost every sitcom is formulaic and plagued by canned laughter, TBS’s “My Boys” is refreshingly original and comedic. The show focuses on Chicago sportswriter P.J. Franklin (Jordana Spiro) and her group of friends — most of whom are men. In many respects, P.J. is rather masculine; she plays poker and hangs out in bars with her boys, is somewhat blunt with the men she dates and, as the narrator of the show, likens events in her social life to sports metaphors. Included in her group is her older brother Andy (comedian Jim Gaffigan), who is married and lives in the suburbs but always joins the group for poker; Brendan (Reid Scott), a radio DJ who often has to crash at P.J.’s after fighting with his girlfriend; Mike (Jamie Kaler), a commitment-phobic

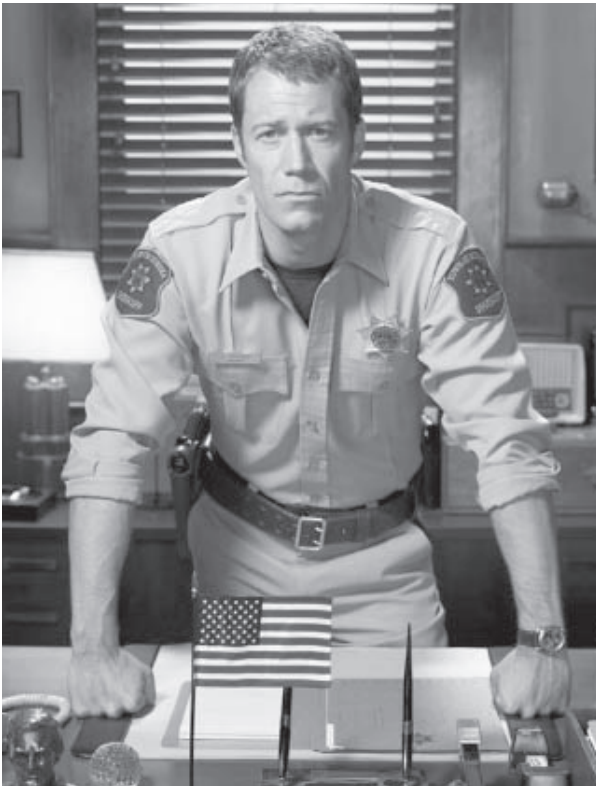
ladies’ man; Kenny (Norfolk native Michael Bunin), an awkward sports store owner; and Bobby (Kyle Howard), a rival sportswriter and P.J.’s past love interest. P.J.’s only real female

friend is Stephanie (Kellee Stewart), whom she met in college. Stephanie often advises her to act more femininely to attract men. The entire cast has real chemistry, lending the series a very real feel. Gone are the stupid quips that plagued “Friends,” instead, the characters realistically banter with and tease each other. This Tuesday, the last two episodes of the season will air back-to-back at 10 p.m. on TBS.

“Feasting on Asphalt”

Food Network regular Alton Brown (“Good Eats,” “Iron Chef America”) hits the back roads of America in the second season of his travelogue show, “Feasting on Asphalt.” This season, titled “The River Run,” shows Brown and his crew exploring Mississippi River routes on motorcycles and stopping what seems like nine times a day to eat local cuisine and to interview the proprietors. By not traveling on major interstates and avoiding chain restaurants, Brown makes backcountry America seem savory and delicious. The delight of the show is that Brown’s knowledge, attention to detail and offbeat humor are really a part of his personality and not just of his quirky TV self. He is especially great at narrating the history of a particular region or extolling the virtues of cooking methods developed nearby while riding a motorcycle. It’s fascinating to see the various reactions of locals; after all, even Brown himself doesn’t know where

he’ll be stopping. Some restaurant owners let him try his hand at serving their food; others won’t even let him past the counter; and, occasionally, he’s mobbed by Food Network groupies. Hopefully we’ll be treated to another on-camera car crash; last season Brown injured his clavicle. The final episode of the season, in which Brown completes the journey with a stop in Minnesota, airs tomorrow at 9 p.m.



COURTESY PHOTO — SCI-FI CHANNEL
Colin Ferguson plays Sheriff Jack Carter, a man of average intelligence in a town full of geniuses, in “Eureka.”

“Eureka” This sci-fi, comedy-drama seems a little too good to be true at first; you keep expecting the disaster-of-the-week bit to get old. Fortunately, the writers and cast are able to keep “Eureka” fresh and interesting. The show features a town called Eureka somewhere in the Pacific Northwest. This town is unique because everyone who lives there is a genius — it was created by Dwight D. Eisenhower after World War II to keep America ahead of its rivals with regard to scientific developments. To this end, all of the nation’s most intelligent people from every branch of science, ranging from military science to cryogenics to lepidopterology (the study of butterflies) work and live in Eureka, leading to massive technological development, but also to dangerous mishaps. The really interesting part is that every last towns person is smart — even the local farmer raises cloned

See SHOWS page 9

‘Diaries’ beats male litmus test

By AUSTIN JOURNEY
The Flat Hat

Okay, I’ll admit it; I’m the kind of guy who, when forced by his girlfriend to go to a chick flick, whines, moans and puts up any and all forms of resistance. The truth is, secretly, deep down, I end up enjoying chick flicks just as much as she does. “The Nanny Diaries” is no exception. Having seen all the tell-tale signs of a chick flick in the trailer — a pretty girl, a good-looking guy, hints of a love story and, among other things, the words “Nanny” and “Diaries” in the title — I was hesitant at first. However, as with other films in the genre, I came out of the theater with a bit of a smile on my face and without any regret of having spent my precious cash on the trip to the movies.

“The Nanny Diaries” is based on the 2002 novel by Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus. It follows the story of recent college graduate Annie, played by Scarlett Johansson (“Lost In Translation”), who, while trying to figure out what to do with a degree in anthropology, is thrust into a babysitting job for a wealthy New York family. Throughout the film, Annie tries to overcome the various challenges



COURTESY PHOTO — THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY
Scarlett Johansson and Nicholas Art star as Annie Braddock and Grayer in “The Nanny Diaries,” an adaptation of the 2002 book by Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus.

that come from being a first-time nanny; having to care for a child who comes from a much higher social class than she does makes it all the more interesting. Annie also meets Harvard Hottie, the code name she gives to her love interest, played by Chris Evans (“Fantastic Four”), with whom she has a number of embarrassing exchanges. The humor of the film plays out in these scenes of stressful struggle and awkward interactions, but the heart of the movie is really in the moments that give the film a much more serious undertone.

Annie is forced to start a life of her

own after college — getting out from under the protective shield that parents and student life holds up. She is put into a situation where she has to come to grips with reality, forced to live real life when she sees instances of infidelity, spousal and child mistreatment and, fittingly, lying, cheating and stealing. The abstract, dream-sequence style of direction in certain scenes brings out Annie’s realization that there is life after school, and that the most important lesson therein can merely be knowing oneself.

See ‘DIARIES’ page 9

Muscarelle exhibits transfix, reveal

By RUSTY MEADOWS
The Flat Hat

Strolling through the Muscarelle’s much-anticipated exhibition of our nation’s foremost landscape photographer, one can easily recognize Clyde Butcher’s undeniable photographic talent. Numerous works by the so-called “contemporary Ansel Adams” exhibit America’s natural beauty with vast detail, stark contrast and sheer size. Less noticeable, but just as striking, are the emotions hidden deep within the wooded scenes of the large black and white photographs that consume the vibrant walls of “America the Beautiful: The Monumental Landscapes.”

In his formal artist statement, Butcher confesses, “Wilderness, to me, is a spiritual necessity. When my son was killed by a drunk driver, it was to the wilderness that I fled in hopes of regaining my serenity and equilibrium.” Rushing water, illuminated woodland, rolling clouds and arid deserts represent the heartache and suffering Butcher and his family endured. From Yosemite and Death Valley to his home state of Florida, Butcher has now devoted his gift to preserving what he shoots.

In 2000, Butcher was the

recipient of the coveted Ansel Adams Conservation Award, recognizing him as the photographer who best used his abilities to further conservation efforts. This photography aficionado puts his talent to use by depicting some of America’s most amazing locations. Butcher works to further the goals of such projects as Visions for the Next Millennium, Message to Teachers and the Melaleuca Project, all of which focus on making sure the planet is as beautiful in the future as it is today.

The breadth of work exhibited in the College’s gallery is truly monumental. Upon entering the Muscarelle, you are greeted by “Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge,” an eight-by-four-and-a-half-foot congregation of water lilies and swamp grass containing such transfixing detail and contrast that your body refuses to move and your eyes decline to wander. The other snap shots range from rolling rivers to colossal overgrowth, and all showcase Butcher’s uncanny ability to fit massive amounts of America into the black frames and white mats of the photographic world.

Along with Butcher’s amazing portfolio of prints, the Muscarelle is offering an exhibit outlining the

See MUSCARELLE page 9

Addictive Hollywood socialite lifestyle proves a slippery slope

Genice Phillips
CRITICAL CONDITION COLUMNIST



Ah, Hollywood — the coveted world of stardom filled with illustrious lights and excessive amounts of money and fame. Jay-Z calls it “the most addicting drug in the world,” and many celebrities are inhaling as much of it as they can. But it seems as though today they’re starting to feel the effects of this intoxicating drug — and the consequences are tremendous. Celebrities are drunk on daytime television, fighting with other celebrities over Scientology and still finding time to party and procreate, all while sniffing some pure white — creating your typical, soap-opera/reality TV show complete with heightened drama.

For some time now, Hollywood has taken over facets of American culture and society, perpetuating stereotypes and flashing lavish, unattainable objects in the homes of the American people. It changes kid stars into lying drug-addicts, pop princesses into irresponsible mothers (you know who I’m talking about) and comedians into suicidal, globe-trekking fugitives, running away to find clarity (a la Owen Wilson and Dave Chappelle).

With aid from the media, Hollywood triggers the production of plastic faces and Barbie-sized images for many young women, leading to problems of self-esteem and other insecurities. Nicole Richie is so skinny she could be used as one of those poles for vaulting in the Olympic Games. There are a few exceptions to this artificial system, with the likes of Queen Latifah and Catherine Zeta-Jones, who focus less on body image and paparazzi flashes and more on doing their job and creating positive images for

themselves and young people who aspire to be them. This, however, is not the norm.

One can see the cracks and imperfections of this once-perfect system. Blinding fame can mislead and cause one to become unrecognizable to others. When I see Lindsay Lohan or James Brown’s mug shots plastered on TV, they look dumbfounded — as if they were unaware that injuries would ensue from their entertaining debacles.

Don’t get me wrong, the degradation of society is not entirely the fault of Hollywood — people are not infallible, and once you sign your name on the dotted line, you are automatically a product waiting to be sold to the masses. Celerities must take the responsibility and the hard blows that come with it. The problem lies in the fact that most celebrities would rather hide behind Louis Vuitton shades, expensive couture and globes of make-up while becoming overpowered by the deceptive silver screen.

But while Hollywood might cushion its celebrities’ falls with a hefty number of “get out of jail free” cards and exclusive interviews with Oprah, it won’t be holding their hands when they rush to rehab facilities, take five-day breaks to “rejuvenate” themselves from fatigue or when their spouse leaves them for another celebrity. It just rears its ugly head and takes a few snapshots of their slow-motion wrecks.

I pity celebrities in a way, but then I remember that they make millions of dollars a year and then lash out at the system. Instead of sorrow for them I will simply leave a suggestion for the young celebrities who flash their veneers and their aesthetically pleasing bodies: Hollywood is not for the faint of heart, so proceed at your own risk.

Genice Phillips is a junior at the College. While she is disgusted by much of today’s socialite scum, she — like all of us — finds secret pleasure in reading Hollywood Gossip.

Coming Attractions

— compiled by
Alex Guillén



The Go! Team — “Proof of Youth” (Sub Pop)
The Go! Team’s sophomore record, “Proof of Youth,” is perfect bubblegum pop with an off-the-scale anti-production method. Contributors include Chuck D, the Double Dutch Divas and Solex. The band has the ability to remind you of the Jackson 5, Sonic Youth and Public Enemy in a single song. **Sept. 11**



Hot Hot Heat — “Happiness Ltd.” (Sire/Warner Music)
Singer Steven Bays’ breakup with his long-time girlfriend is an obvious influence on Canadian rock group Hot Hot Heat’s fifth album. In a departure from the band’s prior new-wave stomp, the album kicks off with a sappy ballad about the eternity of misery. Fortunately, the band soon returns to its disco-rock sound. **Sept. 11**



“3:10 to Yuma” (Lions Gate Entertainment)
It’s late 1800s Arizona, and drought-plagued farmer Dan Evans (Christian Bale) volunteers to deliver infamous gang boss Ben Wade (Russell Crowe) to a train taking him to trial. While being chased by Wade’s gang, the two gain a mutual respect despite their different backgrounds. **Sept. 7**



“Tell Me You Love Me” (HBO)
Premiering this Sunday, HBO’s new show “Tell Me You Love Me” follows four couples of various ages in relationship therapy. It also features lots and lots of graphic, raunchy sex, done with sadly realistic prosthetics. The experienced cast includes Ally Walker, Adam Scott and Broadway alum Jane Alexander. **Sept. 9**



“Pontoon: A Novel of Lake Wobegon”
By Garrison Keillor (Viking Adult)
Keillor’s new novel is about the fictional Minnesota town so familiar to “Prairie Home Companion” fans. “Pontoon” spins a tale of romance and adventure revealed after death, with plenty of Keillor’s homegrown wit. **Sept. 11**

HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

Dante’s Inferno
Early Tuesday, a bomb exploded outside Studio Dante, a nonprofit theater, in the Chelsea area of New York City (owned by former “Sopranos” star Michael Imperioli). The four-story building was shaken by a potentially lethal pipe bomb. There were no injuries, but the apartments above the theater were evacuated for safety reasons. The culprit is on the run while NYPD searches for details.



Still not in control
Halle Berry confirmed Tuesday that she is three months pregnant. Their eyes are watching God as Berry and boyfriend Gabriel Aubry await the birth of their first child. Berry confirmed the news in an exclamation point-heavy e-mail to her friend, “Access Hollywood” anchor Nancy O’Dell, who then announced it on her show. No word on a wedding, but we hope the happy family lives nappily ever after.



Hide your love away
Renee Zellweger may be busily scribbling away in her diary about her new Cinderella man. Alas, the 64-year-old bachelor in question isn’t quite down with love. Sir Paul McCartney and the “Chicago” star were sighted having dinner in New York, and were reportedly “very cozy” on an outdoor daybed at Jon Bon Jovi’s East Hampton party Sunday. The former Beatle denies rumors that the two are a couple.



The big story: Anna edition
The Anna Nicole Smith saga continues. Anna’s baby-daddy, Larry Birkhead, has ordered his attorney to sue journalist Rita Cosby over what he considers the final insult. In her new book, “Blonde Ambition,” Cosby alleges that Birkhead and Anna’s attorney/fake husband Howard K. Stern are gay lovers. And there’s a sex tape. And Anna watched it before she died. Ambitious indeed. **— compiled by Alice Hahn**



COURTESY PHOTO — USA NETWORK
James Roday (LEFT) stars as fake psychic detective Shawn Spencer, who uses his heightened sense of observation to help the police solve crimes in “Psych.” Dulé Hill plays Gus, his best friend and sidekick.

Five best TV shows you don’t watch

SHOWS *from page 8*

chicken meat instead of living fowl. Colin Ferguson plays Sheriff Jack Carter, who is assigned to Eureka after stumbling upon the town and helping solve a case. Carter has average intelligence, but often provides a necessary real-world perspective to the scientists. Carter lives in a smart house with his daughter Zoe (Jordan Hinson), who scored genius-level in an IQ test but didn’t tell her father. Also in the cast are Salli Richardson-

Whitfield, Joe Morton and Ed Quinn, all of whom play brilliant scientists, and Erica Cerra, who plays Carter’s ex-Marine deputy. “Eureka” is the perfect mix of breezy fun, sci-fi thrill and excellent performances. New episodes will air Tuesdays at 9 p.m. until the end of the season in October.

“Psych”
This comedy-mystery series focuses on Shawn Spencer (James Roday), the son of a former policeman. Shawn possesses

heightened observational skills and has a knack for investigation, enabling him to solve mysteries with ease. The show is called “Psych” because, after viewing a news report on a crime, Shawn phones in a tip to the police, making them suspicious that he is involved in the crime. He manages to convince them that he is psychic in order to avoid prosecution and is forced to keep up the act as the police constantly employ him as a case consultant. He starts a psychic detective agency called Psych and hires his lifelong best friend, Gus (Dulé Hill, “The West Wing”), the Dr. Watson to Shawn’s Sherlock Holmes. Gus also works as a pharmaceutical representative, which Shawn loves to tease him about. The rest of the cast, mostly members of the police force, are forgettable, but Roday and Hill carry the series themselves as they humorously investigate crimes. Gus is usually the calmer, more level-headed of the double act; Shawn, on the other hand, spends much of his time hitting on a cute female detective and making witty pop culture references. Several more episodes will air on USA Fridays at 10 p.m., and the second half of this season will air in 2008.



COURTESY PHOTO — FOOD NETWORK
Alton Brown eats his way up the Mississippi River in Food Network’s travelogue miniseries “Feasting on Asphalt: The River Run.”

New Muscarelle exhibition wows

MUSCARELLE *from page 8*

development of the College’s academic campus. “Building the College: The Colonial Revival Campus at the College of William and Mary” shines with weathered photographs, lifelike models and original blueprints of the campus, along with portraits of instrumental people who influenced the College throughout its history. The worn edges of the images showcasing the College’s architectural heritage are bold and straightforward, revealing its decisive expansions.

There is a display of recognizable color photographs that take what students see every day while traveling around campus and convert them into extraordinary representations of academic life and colonial tradition. Of the small collection of prints, the most moving are the vibrant shots of the Wren Building, which illustrate the artist’s skill and artistry. Butcher will give a lecture on tomorrow at 2 p.m., marking the opening of both shows. Butcher’s exhibition runs through Dec. 2, while the campus exhibition runs through Nov. 4.

‘Diaries’ passes boyfriend test

‘DIARIES’ *from page 8*

Of course, no matter how deep the underlying message, “The Nanny Diaries” is still a chick flick. The movie follows the genre’s stock plot line: A girl who is set on empowering herself through one means strays from her original intentions. She meets a guy. She somehow becomes self-absorbed, which her friends, family and new man let her know. By the end, she becomes empowered anyway, through self-discovery and making and fixing mistakes. Oh, and did I

mention, before she does all this, she performs the requisite move of standing up in a convertible and singing as loud as she can while driving through the streets of New York City? Formulaic though it may be, the cast is what brought the movie to a higher level than the usual chick-flick fare. Johansson does a great job as the film’s main character, but Laura Linney (“Kinsey”) and Paul Giamatti (“Lady in the Water”) make very believable parents. Linney and Giamatti give such wonderful performances that the characters

are hated the minute they’re seen onscreen, as they should be. Alicia Keys is surprisingly good as Annie’s best friend Lynette, and thankfully Evans, who is often found lacking, does a good enough job in the short amount of screen time he actually has. Overall, it’s a great chick flick, and not a bad movie. Yes, quite a bit of the story is predictable, but it’s cute, it has a happy ending, and guys, if your girlfriend wants to drag you to this, don’t whine too much, it’s not that bad (plus it has Scarlett Johansson, come on). ★★☆☆☆

SCHOLARSHIP
NEWS
from the Roy R. Charles Center

CAMPUS FULBRIGHT
DEADLINE
12 noon Wednesday
September 12

Check out the
Scholarship Central
website
www.wm.edu/scholarships

SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday, October 6
Celebration of
Summer Research
in the University Center

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASEBALL
Tribe players excel in New England summer league

Juniors Mike Sheridan, Robbie Nickle and Larry Stanfield helped lead the Vermont Mountaineers to a successful defense of the New England Collegiate Baseball League championship title this summer. Sheridan hit .320 for the season, tallying eight doubles and three triples. Nickle added six doubles of his own, in addition to belting three homeruns and recording 16 RBI. Stanfield preformed well in the field, accumulating 71 assists and 36 put-outs during the season. Sheridan and Stanfield proved instrumental to the Mountaineers post-season success as Sheridan batted at a .348 clip during the playoffs and Stanfield recorded a crucial double in Vermont's 14-8 victory in the first game of the championship series.

WOMEN'S SOCCER
College opens home schedule with Tribe Invite

The College (1-1) will host the annual Tribe Invitational this weekend as the University of Oklahoma, University of Maine and Virginia Commonwealth University head to Williamsburg for the season-opening tournament. The Tribe shared the Invitational title last season after defeating Princeton University, 2-0, and drawing even against North Carolina State, 1-1. The College enters the Invitational following a 3-0 victory over N.C. State, highlighted by a pair of goals from senior Emily Kittleson.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
ESPN's BracketBusters comes to Williamsburg

ESPN's sixth-annual BracketBusters competition will once again feature the College this season. The Tribe has been slated to host a game during the two-day event, which will take place Feb. 22-23. Last season the College fell to Fairfield University 61-45 in their BracketBusters debut. The Colonial Athletic Association, which has accumulated a 7-2 record in televised BracketBusters games over the past three years, will feature all 12 of their basketball programs in the 100-team event. George Mason foreshadowed their improbable run to the final four in 2006 with an impressive BracketBusters victory over Wichita State, while Drexel made their case for an NCAA bid by knocking off Creighton in a BracketBusters tilt last season.

SCHEDULE

Fri., Sept. 7
WOMEN'S SOCCER
vs. OKLAHOMA — 7 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL
vs. So. Mississippi — 5 p.m. *

MEN'S SOCCER
@ Penn State — 5:30 p.m.

Sat., Sept. 8

VOLLEYBALL
vs. UCLA — 11 a.m. *
@ UC-Irvine — 7 p.m.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
Lou Onesty Invitational —
Charlottesville, Va.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
Lou Onesty Invitational —
Charlottesville, Va.

FOOTBALL
@ VMI — 1 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY
vs. MIAMI (OHIO) — 1 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 9

WOMEN'S SOCCER
vs. MAINE — 3 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER
vs. Ohio State — Noon **

Mon., Sept. 10

MEN'S GOLF
Mid Pines Invitational —
Southern Pines, N.C.

WOMEN'S GOLF
Chip-N Invitational —
Lincoln, Neb.

* Game played at UC Irvine.
** Game played at Penn State.

FOOTBALL PREVIEW: VMI

Defense prepares for Keydets' option

Tribe has won past 21 meetings; Nicholas 'doubtful'

By JEFF DOOLEY
Flat Hat Sports Editor

Tribe football travels to Lexington, Va. tomorrow to take on the Virginia Military Institute Keydets in a 1 p.m. non-conference game. The meeting marks the 85th between the teams, and the 63rd consecutive season in which the two teams have played. The Tribe has won the last 21 matchups.

The College is looking to rebound after last Thursday's 49-31 loss to the University of Delaware, in which the Tribe defense gave up an NCAA Football Championship Subdivision record-tying seven touchdowns to running back Omar Cuff.

"Defensively, we need to get better," Head Coach Jimmye Laycock said. "We're extremely young. We kind of let some things snowball a little bit defensively [against Delaware]. Whereas a more experienced team would have been able to regroup, we had a little harder time doing that."

This week the defense will have to adjust from defending the pro-style power running attack of Delaware to defending the option attack of VMI, who won their season opener last weekend by a score of 20-0 over Lock

Haven University. Jones said that the change won't make too much of a difference.

"It's just like any other week. Every offense we face runs different twists and different things," Jones said. "We've just got to focus in and get our individual assignments down."

Laycock was far more optimistic about the play of his offense, particularly junior quarterback Jake Phillips, who set a single-game Tribe record for passing yards with 433 against Delaware.

"I was very impressed with the play of Jake Phillips," Laycock said. "It's not so much the yardage, because I was a little surprised at that, but it was the decision-making that he had during the game."

Phillips and the rest of the Tribe offense will be without junior wide receiver D.J. McAulay, who is out for the season with a knee injury. Also, senior wide receiver Joe Nicholas, who missed the Delaware game with an injury, is unlikely to see action, as Laycock called his chances of playing Saturday "doubtful." In light of this, redshirt freshman Cameron Dohse will likely get his first career start at the wideout position.

While the Tribe does carry a huge series winning streak into their game with VMI, Laycock is not taking the Keydets and their wide-open option running attack lightly, particularly



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT
Junior QB Jake Phillips takes a snap last year against VMI.

not on the road.
"It's always tough to play over there in Lexington," Laycock said.

SPORTS FEATURE

Branding the Tribe



CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT
The feathers logo at center court of Kaplan Arena will likely be replaced by the logo committee's new recommendation.

Committee on pace to unveil new logo at Homecoming

By JEFF DOOLEY
Flat Hat Sports Editor

The College's logo committee is on pace to have a proposal for the school's new logo ready in time for President Gene Nichol to unveil it at this year's Homecoming, should the President choose to do so.

"I think it's fair to say that we're going to be able to [have the logo ready by Homecoming] without too much difficulty," Sam Sadler, vice president of student affairs and committee chair, said. "It depends on whether or not [Nichol] likes our recommendation, of course."

The committee was formed after the College dropped its appeal of the NCAA's ruling that called the Tribe's feathers logo "hostile and abusive."

The logo committee consists of 13 members, including Sadler, four alumni, two students (including student-athlete Kyra Kaylor of the women's basketball team), two professors, one administrator and one graduate student, as well as Athletics Director Terry Driscoll and Women's Field Hockey Head Coach Peel Hawthorne, '80.

"This is a group that's worked together really well," Sadler said. "Everyone comes to our meetings. The people who are on it really want to be there."

The committee has poured through countless logo ideas and submissions and has now whittled it down to what Sadler calls a "workable number." They have hired an artist who is currently working with the last few ideas.

"We're probably a couple of weeks away from being close to something we can recommend," Sadler said.

One question that remains is that of the College's mascot. The Tribe is currently without a mascot, and

has not had one since the amorphous green blob known as Colonel Ebert (who was never the school's official mascot) saw his final action in 2005. As the logo committee was formed, they were charged with the task of recommending a new logo, but were also told that they were free to explore the question of a mascot.

"The sentiment on the committee is that they would like to [come up with a mascot]," Sadler said. "But they felt that we should do the logo first and get that done, then move to the others."

Sadler said that the committee has received many mascot recommendations, just as they had for the logo. He also added that he hopes the College can have a mascot sometime in the near future.

"I'd like to see us have a mascot," Sadler said. "I think it's great for marketing. I think it helps affirm identity. I think the great challenge is finding one that people would look at and say 'Oh, that makes sense' or 'Oh, isn't that great.' Because mascots can often be controversial."

Sadler added that he believes that if the College were to come up with a new mascot, the logo committee would be right for the job.

"I would hope that a broad-based committee, with the kind of representation this has on it, might be better positioned to propose something for the institution," Sadler said. "But we'll see."

The Tribe has been using a variety of logos for their sports teams. The script "Tribe" logo runs across both of the end zones in Zable Stadium, and on the jerseys of the men's soccer team. The interlocking "WM" logo that used to feature the feathers has also been used as well. Sadler said he does not know what will happen to these additional logos once the new one is revealed.

"I think a lot of it depends on

how good the new design is and if we want it to be on everything. Hopefully, it will be [good enough]," Sadler said. "I don't know that it is on anybody's mind that [the other logos] will all disappear."

Regardless of whether or not the new logo takes over as the only one on campus, Sadler said that he hopes it will successfully brand the Tribe.

"We want people to look at it and say, 'That's William and Mary,'" Sadler said. "We're intent on being able to accomplish that, and hopefully we can."

LOGO COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Sam Sadler (Chair)
VP FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS
- Terry Driscoll
ATHLETICS DIRECTOR
- Peel Hawthorne
FIELD HOCKEY HEAD COACH
- Karen Cottrell
EXEC. VP OF ALUMNI ASSOC.
- Connie Desaulniers
CLASS OF 1975
- James S. Kelly
CLASS OF 1951
- Nancy Mathews
CLASS OF 1976
- Professor Marlene Jack
ART DEPARTMENT
- Professor Don Rahtz
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
- Kendra Boykin
GRADUATE STUDENT REP.
- Kyra Kaylor
STUDENT-ATHLETE REP.
- Tom Yake
STUDENT REP.
- Stewart Gamage
VP FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FROM THE SIDELINES

Angels to take West, Yankees to secure wild card

Dave Erhart

FLAT HAT SPORTS COLUMNIST



With Major League Baseball's stretch run about to set in, here is a look at the playoff contenders in the American League.

AL EAST

The Boston Red Sox currently hold the best record in baseball at 84-56, having enjoyed success despite injuries that have limited the home run production of Manny Ramirez (20) and David Ortiz (26). With home run production down from Boston's big hitters, the Sox have relied on strong pitching performances to build and hold a six-game lead in the division over the New York Yankees. The ace of Boston's rotation, Josh Beckett, is tied for most wins in the majors with 17 and is posting a 3.30 ERA this season. His performance has enabled Boston to make up for lower production by Ramirez and Ortiz.

The New York Yankees are 78-62 and sit six games behind the Red Sox in the East. The Yankees have had mixed success with their pitching rotation this year, as Chien-Ming Wang is tied with Beckett for the most wins in baseball with 17. However, Roger Clemens is only 6-6 and is suffering from a day-to-day elbow injury and Mike Mussina, at 8-10, has lost his last three starts. The offense is in better shape, as the Yankees have benefited from Alex Rodriguez's league-leading 48 HRs and 138 RBI.

Prediction: Boston wins the division. New York wins the wild card.

AL CENTRAL

The Cleveland Indians are 81-58 and currently hold a seven-game lead over the Detroit Tigers in the ALC, having been red hot with a 9-1 record over their last ten games. The pitching performances of C.C. Sabathia (16-7), Fausto Carmona (15-8) and Paul Byrd (14-5) have been the catalysts to Cleveland's success. Additionally, Grady Sizemore, Victor Martinez and Travis Hafner have produced steady run production for the Indians, as each has recorded over 20 HRs, while Sizemore has tallied 100 RBI.

Detroit has suffered from the injury bug this season, as starting pitcher Kenny Rogers (3-2) was hampered by an elbow injury this season and was also out for three months with surgery due to a blood clot in his pitching arm. Gary Sheffield is also currently on the disabled list, making a late-season run less likely.

Prediction: Cleveland wins the division and Detroit misses the playoffs.

AL WEST

The Los Angeles Angels are 82-57 and have a 7.5 game lead in the division over Seattle. The Angels have had excellent pitching performances out of Kelvin Escobar (15-7), John Lackey (16-8) and Jered Weaver (11-6). Combined with the offense of Vladimir Guerrero (22 HRs, 110 RBI), these pitching performances have put the division firmly in Los Angeles' control.

The Seattle Mariners are 74-64, and 1-9 in the last 10 games. Seattle has suffered from weak pitching this year, having only two players with over 10 wins — Miguel Batista (13-10) and Felix Hernandez (11-7). The poor pitching means that Seattle is the only team in AL playoff contention currently allowing more runs than they score. Despite Ichiro Suzuki's .352 batting average and Adrian Beltre's 22 HRs, this team seems doomed by the lack of a strong starting rotation.

Prediction: Los Angeles wins the division, Seattle misses playoffs.

Dave Erhart may be emailed at daerha@wm.edu.